FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-103
Tuesday
29 May 1990

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-103 CONTENTS *29 May 1990*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Reportage on Arab Summit Meetings in Baghdad ... 1
  Agenda Approved in Closed Meeting *[Baghdad Radio]* ... 1
  Evening Session Concluded *[INA]* ... 1
  'First Closed Session' Begins *[INA]* ... 1
  Summit Extended One Day *[Amman Radio]* ... 1
  Gorbachev Message for Success *[Baghdad Radio]* ... 1
  Saddam Addresses Opening *[Baghdad Radio]* ... 2
  Mubarak Addresses Opening *[Cairo Radio]* ... 7
  'Arafat Addresses Session *[Baghdad Radio]* ... 11
Republic of Yemen Considered ACC Member *[INA]* ... 17
  Salih Thanks ACC *[INA]* ... 17
New Yemeni Leaders Confer With Arab Officials ... 17
  Discuss Agenda With Fahd *[Sanaa Radio]* ... 17
  Mubarak Congratulations *[Aden Radio]* ... 18

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Affirms Swiss Hostages Still Alive *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ... 18
'Arafat Gives Speech to UN Security Council *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ... 18
'Arafat Gives News Conference in Geneva *[INA]* ... 22

ARAB AFRICA

Egypt

Police Vehicle Attacked; Four Officers Injured *[MENA]* ... 24
13 Nigerians Arrested for Heroin Smuggling *[MENA]* ... 24

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

Daily 'Fiercely Attacked' President Bush, Policy *[KUNA]* ... 25

PDRY

Salih, Al-'Attas Address Council of Ministers *[Aden Radio]* ... 25

IRAQ

UN Representative Addresses Security Council *[INA]* ... 27
Launching of Satellite 'Response' to Jericho-2 *[Kuwait AL-SIYASAH 22 May]* ... 27

ISRAEL

Explosion Injures 12 in Jerusalem Jewish Quarter 28
    Arrests Made; Bomb in Rishon *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 28
    Bombing Claimed for Jihad Group *[AFP]* 28
    Wounded Man Dies *[Jerusalem Radio]* 28
Further Reaction to UN Proposal on Observers 28
    Shamir: 'Will Not Bring Peace' *[Paris Antenne-2 TV]* 28
    Attention Given 'Arafat Deplored *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
    Ministry Rejects Observer, Envoy *[Jerusalem TV]* 29
    Netanyahu on Survey Delegation *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
    Netanyahu: U.S. Stand 'Reasonable' *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
    Netanyahu Rejects UN 'Jurisdiction' *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
    'No Truth' to Acceptance of Envoy *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
    Arens Addresses Issue in Cabinet *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 29
Shamir on U.S. Ties, Peace, New Government *[Jerusalem Radio]* 30
Peres Comments on Meetings With Mubarak in Cairo *[DAVAR 25 May]* 32
Shamir Briefed on 'Grave Rift' in U.S. Ties *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 27 May]* 32
Clash Near U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem *[Jerusalem Radio]* 33
'Abnormal' Army Movements Along Arab Borders *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 33
IDF Kills 'Terrorist' North of Security Zone *[Jerusalem Radio]* 33

LEBANON

Group Threatens 'Reprisals' Against U.S., Israel 34
    Provides Photograph of Hostages *[AFP]* 34
    Group 'Forced' To Delay Decisions *[AFP]* 34
    RFL Reports Threat 34
Al-Musawi: 'Possibility' of UK Hostage Release *[AFP]* 34
Islamic Jihad Conditions for Anderson's Release *[Voice of National Resistance]* 35
Strikes Staged To Protest War, Living Conditions *[Beirut Radio]* 35
Further on Attack on Iranian Embassy in Beirut *[AFP]* 35
Amal-Hizballah Fighting Spreads in West Beirut *[Beirut Radio]* 36
    Amal Reportedly Resumes Attacks *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 36
    Casualty Update; 'Calm' Prevails *[Voice of National Resistance]* 36
    Clashes Resume 26 May *[Beirut Radio]* 36
    'Complete Calm' After Clashes *[Beirut Radio]* 36
KUNA Interviews 'Awn on Peace Accord 36

SYRIA

Al-Qadhdhafi Visits Al-Asad To Discuss Summit 37
    Arrives 'Unexpectedly' *[KUNA]* 37
    Confers With Al-Asad *[KUNA]* 37
    Talks Continue *[Damascus TV]* 37
    Discuss Arab Issues *[Damascus Radio]* 37
    Banquet Honors Al-Qadhdhafi *[JANA]* 38
    Hold Closed Meeting *[JANA]* 38
    Hold Second Closed Meeting *[Damascus Radio]* 38
    Further on Meeting *[Damascus Radio]* 38
    Seen Off by Al-Asad, Departs *[SANA]* 38
    Talks Show 'Militant Solidarity' *[Damascus Radio]* 38
Discussion Continues on Summit Participation 39
    Egypt: Syria To Attend *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 39
    Al-Asad, Others Not Attending *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 39
    'Sources': Syria May Attend *[TANJUG]* 39
    Al-Asad Not Attending *[Jerusalem International]* 40
    Editorial Rejects 'Improvisation' *[Damascus Radio]* 40
Minister Gives Election Results, Assembly Makeup *[Damascus Radio]* 40
    Discusses Election Results *[Damascus Radio]* 41

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Assembly Records Vote of Confidence in Khaliqyar *[Kabul Radio]* 45
Khaliqyar Speaks to Assembly on Confidence Vote *[Kabul Radio]* 45
Najibullah Decree Confirms New Government *[Kabul Radio]* 46
Najibullah Decree Names Loya Jirga Members *[BAKHTAR]* 47
Najibullah Speaks at 28 May Loya Jirga Session *[BAKHTAR]* 48
Najibullah Sends 'Fresh Proposals' to Superpowers *[AFP]* 48
Hekmatyar Reportedly Rejects AIG Election Plan *[Islamabad THE MUSLIM 25 May]* 49
Weapons, Ammunition Recovered in Paghman District *[Kabul Radio]* 49
Armed Forces Seize Weapons in Andkhvoy District *[Kabul Radio]* 49
Extremist Groups Clash; Weapons Seized *[BAKHTAR]* 49
Recent Fighting in Provinces Detailed *[Kabul Radio]* 49
Three Killed in Kabul Rocket Attack 25 May *[Kabul Radio]* 50
    Attacks Continue *[AFP]* 50
    Six Killed, 11 Injured *[Kabul Radio]* 51

India

Pakistani Convoys Said Leaving Nuclear Complex *[Delhi Radio]* 51
    Spokesman Comments *[Delhi Radio]* 51
Minister: PRC To Sell Missiles to Pakistan *[Delhi International]* 51
Spokesman Denies Bhutto Remarks on 'Agents' *[Delhi Radio]* 51
External Minister Rules Out Intervention in Fiji *[Delhi Radio]* 51
'Outlawed' Kashmir Leader Criticizes Bhutto *[Delhi Radio]* 52
Kashmir Governor Jag Mohan Submits Resignation *[Delhi Radio]* 52
    Replacement Named *[Delhi Radio]* 52
    New Governor Comments *[Delhi Radio]* 52
    Strike, Violence Reported *[AFP]* 53
    Situation Updated *[Delhi Radio]* 53
Singh on Bofors Deal, Kashmir, Punjab Issues *[Delhi Radio]* 54
12, Including Six Terrorists, Killed in Punjab *[Delhi Radio]* 54
'Pakistan-Trained Terrorists' Killed in Kashmir *[Delhi Radio]* 54

Iran

Editorial Calls Baghdad Arab Summit 'Alarming' *[IRNA]* 54
Security Council Discusses 'Second' Iraqi Letter *[IRNA]* 55
Editorial Comments on Iraqi Letter, Proposals *[KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL 14 May]* 55
Funds Disagreement Said To Block Hostage Release
  [London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 24 May] 56
President on Lebanese Situation, Hostage Issue *[Tehran Radio]* 57
British Efforts 'Doomed' Without Policy Change *[IRNA]* 57
'Direct Talks' Call 'To Bow Down' to U.S. *[KEYHAN 29 Apr]* 58
Editorial Views 'Contradiction' in U.S. Attitude *[TEHRAN TIMES 16 May]* 59
Official Speaks Against Israel at UN Meeting *[IRNA]* 60
Agreement Reached With Iraq on POW Repatriation *[IRNA]* 60
President Delivers Second Friday Prayers Sermon *[Tehran Radio]* 60
Beirut Embassy Issues Statement After Attack *[IRNA]* 63
Khamene'i Addresses Afghanistan's Mujahidin *[IRNA]* 63
Velayati Confers With Lebanon's Fadlallah *[Tehran Radio]* 63
Yazdi on Khomeyni's Words, Jewish Emigration *[Tehran Radio]* 63
Soviet Muslims Seek Visas to Attend Anniversary *[IRNA]* 64
Majles Speaker To Hold News Conference 29 May *[Tehran TV]* 64
Leaders Commemorate Anniversary of Majles *[Tehran Radio]* 64
Khamene'i Calls on Imams to Support President *[Tehran Radio]* 65
Chairman Stresses Role of Friday Prayers Imams *[Tehran Radio]* 65
Judiciary Head Yazdi on Arrest of 'Bribery Ring' *[IRNA]* 65
Progress of 'Zafar-2' Antidrug Operation Noted *[IRNA]* 66

Paper Interviews Radio, TV Chief Hashemi *[TEHRAN TIMES 9 May]* 66
President on Land Reclamation, Self-Sufficiency *[Tehran Radio]* 67
UN Official Praises Conditions in Refugee Camps *[IRNA]* 67

Pakistan

Violence, Demonstrations Sweep Sindh, Karachi 68
- Bhutto Expresses Concern *[AFP]* 68
- 12 Killed; Hyderabad Injuries *[AFP]* 68
- Press Note Issued on Violence *[Islamabad Radio]* 68
- 27 Dead in New Sindh Violence *[AFP]* 69
- Paper Details 26 May Violence *[DAWN 27 May]* 69
- Army Takes Over Hyderabad *[AFP]* 70
- Leaders Meet, Discuss Violence *[Islamabad Radio]* 70
- Army Called Out in Karachi *[Islamabad Radio]* 70
- 52 Killed; Hyderabad Violence *[Islamabad Radio]* 70
- More Deaths; Hyderabad Peaceful *[Islamabad Radio]* 71
- Senator Killed in Karachi *[Islamabad Radio]* 71
- President Condemns Handling *[Islamabad Radio]* 71
- Judicial Probe in Hyderabad *[Islamabad Radio]* 71

India Said Acquiring Soviet Nuclear Carrier *[Islamabad International]* 72

Inter-Arab Affairs

Reportage on Arab Summit Meetings in Baghdad

Agenda Approved in Closed Meeting

JN2705202890 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn today received the Arab leaders, their majesties, excellencies, and highnesses the kings, presidents, amirs, and heads of delegations participating in the extraordinary Arab summit.

The Arab leaders and heads of delegations held a closed meeting during which they discussed the agenda and draft resolutions prepared by the Arab foreign ministers' conference held in Baghdad on 22 and 23 May. During the meeting, they agreed on the agenda of the summit, which will begin its work tomorrow, Monday [28 May].

Evening Session Concluded

JN2805204090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2008 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 28 May (INA)—The evening session of the extraordinary Arab summit concluded at 2345 today. [1945 GMT]

During the session, which was chaired by President Saddam Husayn, speeches were delivered by Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine; President Mohamed Siad Barre of Somalia; Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, chairman of Sudan's National Salvation Revolution Command Council; and Hamid al-Ghabid, secretary general of the Islamic Organization Conference.

President Saddam Husayn , chairman of the summit, declared the session adjourned until 1100 [0700 GMT] tomorrow.

INA has learned that tomorrow's session will be closed and confined to heads of delegations.

'First Closed Session' Begins

JN2905084990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0832 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA)—The extraordinary Arab summit resumed its meetings at 1215 today with the first closed working session chaired by President Saddam Husayn.

INA has learned that the closed session was confined to heads of delegations.

The first closed working session of the extraordinary Arab summit was concluded at 1500. It lasted approximately two hours and 45 minutes.

INA has learned that the Arab leaders will resume their meetings at 2100 today to resume discussion of the summit's agenda.

Summit Extended One Day

JN2905112090 Amman Domestic Service in English 1103 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Arab leaders meeting in Baghdad have decided to extend their summit an extra day. Gulf delegates at the summit said that the Arab heads of states postponed the closing session until tomorrow [30 May] to allow more time for discussions.

Gorbachev Message for Success

JN2805233790 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2132 GMT 28 May 90

[Message to Arab summit from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, read by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi]

[Text] Your excellency Saddam Husayn, President of the Republic of Iraq, Baghdad: Allow me to greet you from the bottom of my heart and to greet all the participants of the extraordinary Arab summit in Baghdad. We are as deeply concerned with the situation in the Middle East as you are. The absence of a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict entails a great danger as a result of the buildup of weapons in the region and the emergence of mass destruction weapons therein.

The USSR has made a number of proposals in line with the efforts of the Arab countries. The heroic struggle of the Palestinian Arab people to restore their inalienable rights, and the flexible and constructive policy pursued by the PLO have created the appropriate climate for movement toward a settlement. However, Israel is not showing a serious desire to join this process. Israel's unlawful policy represented by settling the Jews, including the Soviet Jews, in the occupied Arab territories, helps complicate the situation. This policy is in flagrant defiance of the world community and an attempt to hinder the peace process in the Middle East.

Furthermore, it is an act inflicting harm on the Soviet-Arab relations. The USSR gave its assessment of this policy during our recent meetings with Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Husni Mubark in Moscow.

The USSR is taking measures concerning this issue, whether through the United Nations or through its bilateral relations with a view to erecting a solid barrier in the way of Tel Aviv's expansionist schemes and preventing the violation of the Arabs' legitimate rights within the context of respect for internationally-recognized human rights.

There is no doubt that the removal of restrictions on the admission of emigres to other countries to which many of them wish to emigrate would help to ease the consequences of this emigration. We intend to discuss this issue during the forthcoming USSR-U.S. summit. From now on, we will firmly endeavor to end the Israeli occupation of the Arab lands and secure the Palestinian peoples' right to self-determination.

We also believe it necessary to work toward the convening of the international conference on the Middle East on the basis of the principles of balanced interests, full compliance with international legitimacy, and active participation of the UN mechanisms.

Despite all the complications of the problems between Iraq and Iran, we are sure that these problems can be solved. The key is the initiation of a dialogue and the practical implementation of Security Council Resolution No. 598. The recent exchange of letters is a good gesture in this regard. The USSR intends to provide all that in its capacity to assist efforts exerted in this respect.

The tragedy of the Lebanese people, toward whom the Soviet citizens are truly sympathetic, increases the trouble of the search for a settlement in the Middle East. The Soviet Union supports the al-Ta'if agreements and considers the consolidation of the authority of the legitimate government in Lebanon one of the most important factors for achieving national unity and the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory.

We hope that the positive motives for closing Arab ranks and coordinating Arab actions, which emerged at the Casablanca summit, will gain yet another impetus.

Finally, I would like to stress to you that there is high appreciation in the Soviet Union for the bonds of our traditional friendship with the Arab countries. We hope that the strong Soviet-Arab cooperation will continue in the interest of both parties and for the achievement of a just and firm peace in the Middle East. I wish the participants in the summit success and their peoples further progress and prosperity. With high appreciation.

[Signed] Mikhail Gorbachev. Moscow. The Kremlin. 27 May 90.

Saddam Addresses Opening

JN2805151190 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1039 GMT 28 May 90

[Speech by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn at the opening of the extraordinary Arab summit in Baghdad on 28 May—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Ye are the best of peoples, evolved for mankind, enjoining what is right, forbidding what is wrong, and believing in God. [Koranic verse]

Esteemed brothers: Brother leaders of Arab states; Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses. Peace be upon you, and you are welcome in Baghdad—you know how glad and proud this city is in your coming together, and how welcoming of you it is: In addition to the implications of this gathering in this city, Baghdad recalls its historical significance, and remembers its role and responsibilities in the present cirumstances, being the city which the Arabs founded when they carried the torch of light to all humanity to convey the divine message that God honored them to spread once they believed in it. It is the city that has kept the faith, as you have known it, with its history and the lofty meanings that accompanied its growth in the era of Abu-Ja'far al-Mansur.

Brothers: You are in your country, Iraq; every citizen would like us to express ourselves on his behalf and be guided both in word and deed by that which is befitting to the status of this occasion when we welcome you and facilitate your stay and your work—which all Arabs hope will be glorious and successful. You are welcome, brothers and esteemed audience.

Brothers: A few days ago, specifically on 22 May, a new dawn arose in Yemen when it became one Yemen—one country, and one leadership, as it was in the days when it flourished and was a rich fountain of Arabism and Arab civilization. Here it is today, deservedly inheriting that eternal heritage led by brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, with his brother deputy 'Ali Salim al-Bid at his side. May they be blessed with this major and historical accomplishment. May the Yemeni people be blessed in their unity. And may all the leaders of Yemen be blessed with the truthfulness of their call that accompanied their unity. May all Yemen's faithful leaders and people be blessed with this determined will and selflessness, after they weathered bitterness in divisionism, so that they may reap all the benefits of the unity of Yemen. May all the Arabs be blessed by this dawn in the sky of Arabism.

Brothers: We are meeting in Baghdad to work together to realize whatever God may guide us to do under a keynote set for the conference, namely, pan-Arab security and threats to it, how to tackle them, and other related issues. During every conference which brings Arabs together on the summit level, children of the Arab nation everywhere await with eagerness and hope what it will produce, and pray to God that their leaders will measure up to their expectations. This conference, however, is being convened under special circumstances, and is therefore especially important. The current Arab and international circumstances add up to a unique factor that only a few of the previous summits share.

Since we believe, in accordance with our countries' laws, in the importance of the people and that they are the source of power, it is our constitutional and national duty to ensure that the topics of the summit, its decisions, and our behavior and thinking, must relate closely to what we know and sense about the mood of public opinion in the Arab community. We will thus be doing our peoples a special favor. Although the title of the conference, the events related to it, and its timing might indicate that the circumstances are transient and concerned only with the immediate present, we, nonetheless, think that laying solid foundations for concepts underlying these subjects, and the measures needed to put them into practice, extend into the future. We will we shed an inextinguishable beam of light into that future that will, God willing, guide the nation toward working in an atmosphere without setbacks and where gaps are closed. This will take place after the Arabs have joined forces to extract the teeth of the ferocious wolves that have pounced on them to thwart their progress and destroy their hopes for a proud present and a better future, and will renew their nation's human role, which is always to try to attain every national and humanitarian objective.

Not every Arab man in the street may be aware of the headings, which have been formulated on modern principles to be the agenda of our summit. Not every average Arab may be as aware as we who are assembled here are of the detailed and comprehensive implications of pan-Arab security and the requirements for its preservation, or how to express them in reassuring and effective words. But through a sense of history, the Arab masses know the correct answer to the question of how the Arabs can improve their lot. They are also aware that the Arabs are best served by avoiding greed, spite, intrigue, and by closing their ranks through thick and thin. The Arab masses also realize that their interests are best served by presenting a united front against aggression and by pooling their resources whenever the need arises, and making our deeds match our rhetoric.

As 21 states, we must present a solid front against whomever deviates from pan-Arab security within our ranks so that we can contain his whims and policies. Our positions, therefore, must be open so we can interact as leaders and so that the Arab masses can respond to what is correct among these polices and be prepared to take the proper action and make the required sacrifices. The Arab masses believe that pan-Arab security is an integral whole and that for pan-Arab security to become a reality, we cannot afford to regard it half-heartedly—it must be practiced in every aspect of life. It is not possible to divorce popular matters from official and material ones, or the information field from the military.

Brothers: We both know that a nation comprising 21 regimes—taking into consideration the circumstances, capabilities, and views unique to each regime—must have certain differences in viewing any issue or any situation. Because we are a single nation, however, duty demands that we concentrate on points of agreement and elements that connect the single nation, and that we depend on these.

The peculiar elements of uniqueness and nationalism—elements that are well known—do not merit our concentration or focus, nor do we need to call attention to them; because these elements in themselves—which are derived from everyday experience, and from things that are normal in our present circumstances—are able to attract attention to themselves, and to impose their weight at any time, without effort or endeavor.

We are not in a sufficient state of complete pan-Arab unity to call attention to the importance of national or local uniqueness, or to the interest groups within their own countries, taking into consideration different views, decisions and policies. We are not talking about a constitution for unity to do so. Therefore, stressing pan-Arab action, its principles, and the policies it mandates, in addition to the serious sacrifice needed in this regard, is a kind of jihad in some of its aspects, because it is not a normal state of affairs, but a state of rising up to a new level of thought and action, and is something that should be asserted. We should also stress the elements of unity that merit consideration when we make a decision regarding the unified stance mandated by pan-Arab action and security.

Proceeding from the above, many elements must be considered: the great disparity in the level of economic development; in wealth; in cultural, scientific, and technical development; in addition to the levels of general capability and the way of expressing this capability—whether through accepting or rejecting foreign offers—and the way of dealing with the foreigners' illegitimate ambitions and policies, in addition to others. These elements might all create gaps in the wall of pan-Arab security, unless we know how to deal with these elements and circumstances and how to remedy their negative aspects. Some of the aforementioned elements might destroy national and pan-Arab relations, capabilities, and desires. They might also constitute an obstacle to these relations, preventing them from developing in the way they should. This is because the strength and weakness of what is national is related to pan-Arab weakness and strength; and because adding pan-Arab thought and conduct to what is national constitutes a basic goal and the correct ideological framework for what is national. Moreover, this will provide encouragement and inspiration for every manifestation of strength and capability of the national character within our countries. This alone can rid the sons of the nation of that feeling and dual conduct [both pan-Arab and national] that is imposed by the fact that we are—and this is not a fictitious statement—sons of a single nation, but at the same time we suffer from this state of national and local division, indulging ourselves in its narrow details and giving attention and concentration to it, to the extent of seeming, at times, to lack any readiness or ability to link national considerations with pan-Arab ones. Let us give what is pan-Arab and what is national, as we said earlier, the correct strength and capability. Let us move together, in all our countries, with steady, unfaltering steps to a new level of our mission and what is related to this mission—capabilities, plans, and endeavors. The danger of duality, bearing in mind the fact that we are a single nation and not many, and that this fact is not reflected in the general policies and their ramifications—foreign, internal, economic, social, cultural, and military, policies—does not only lie in the psychological and ideological disturbance and disorder it creates. It also has an impact on the overall pattern of life in general and on the citizen's relationship with his nation, and the relationship of the ruler or leader with his people.

One of the causes of Arab weakness is the reluctance on the part of both peoples and their leaders to formulate or take a unified position that would guarantee their policy and its direction, and which would provide the moral strength and material momentum to reach our set targets. This escapes our minds sometimes even in your country, Iraq, in which you are now present.

If we want the resolutions of this summit to fulfill the hopes that our nation has pinned on us and which it expects from us, we must remember the feelings and views of our families in our homes over the past few weeks, the feelings and views of our personal friends among the people, and the feelings and views of those whom we have met from among the sons of our nation, including those who came to Baghdad to attend the Arab popular conference of the federations, trade unions, and professional and popular organizations, and its resolutions, and the stands taken by the press all over the Arab homeland. Then, when we respond—and we are determined to do so, God willing—and when we deal carefully with what the sons of our nation want, we will have found a position commensurate with our responsible view and in harmony with our pan- Arab, humanitarian standpoint.

Only by taking such a position can the leaders and their peoples be heading in the same direction. This is a great honor and I do not think that anyone of us will concede it. It is necessary to fulfill this wish and to add new strength and power to the Arab nation, in addition to the strength and resources in our respective countries. Only then will we view pan-Arab security from a better perspective than the narrow one considered by the traditionalists in the technocratic bodies. These technocrats regard this security as a technical matter, based on close links in terms of the personal security, available information, state organizations, and their local activity, to achieve only local aims, by preventing hostile forces from penetrating it. Thus, they take a narrow view of matters. I say we must rise to another view, proposing to tackle pan-Arab security from a comprehensive viewpoint, both national and pan-Arab, similar to our responsibility as strategists. Thus, we find this reflected in the people's satisfaction with our general policies and in the optimism for the future and the feeling of self-confidence. We find the faithful people eager to safeguard our regimes and ready to defend them. There is an inseparable connection between the regime, its policies, its stands, and its capabilities on the one hand, and the Arab homeland and the entire nation and their capability, stability, and prosperity on the other, both during certain historical periods and at all other times.

In a private meeting, one of the Arab figures from a fraternal Arab country asked how and why the Iraqis had succeeded in fighting all these many years until they triumphed—in the name of the Arabs and in the name of God—and the darkness was defeated. We discussed human aspects of the second al-Qadisiyah battle [with Iran], which is your battle. Briefly, I say to you that whoever thinks that the battle is only a technical matter is mistaken. He is mistaken if he thinks that in terms of results and significance, the battle is merely a military confrontation made necessary when one country in the world is forced to wage such a confrontation. He is mistaken if he thinks that it is a confrontation only between material resources, and that the triumph will be based on weightier resources or superior technology. It is much deeper and more extensive than this. In terms of time and preparations, the confrontation is not confined to the beginning of the armed struggle, and its results will not emerge in accordance with what is wished. It extends much deeper than this. It is a matter of life in all its ramifications, expertise in all fields, and capabilities everywhere. It is related to conviction, rights, capabilities, resolution, and creativity in both its moral and material aspects.

The essential factor in your experience in the second al-Qadisiyah, which is connected with actions and their outcome, is that we never promised the people anything unless we were convinced of it, and unless we were eager to realize it in the first place. And when we did promise, we always bound ourselves to our word of honor and to noble stands. We did not hesitate or procrastinate after having resolved to do something, but relied on God.

We always have viewed all areas and quarters of our country and all Arab areas and quarters—especially those good men who were prepared to support and back us—and all classes of our people as a pool of resources and capabilities that could be advanced forward and elevated upward. Thus, the future has come very near to—if not already united—with the present, and the past has become a living backdrop for the present in all its glory and significance. The past is basically connected with the practical and spiritual relationship between the responsibility of the position and its human aspects on the one hand, and between the human aspects of good citizenship and its responsibility on the other.

Taking into account one of your successful experiences in the life of Arabs in the contemporary era, fighting injustice and usurpation cannot be viewed within a traditional, technical perspective. The comparison in forces between ourselves and our enemies cannot be confined only to available resources. This comparison must be extended to the flood of resources that can be created by the historically correct position of the people and the nation, the faithful enthusiasm without which no guns will be able to realize any effective result, those resources that are connected with the tangible and the intangible, a comprehensive view of all life's requirements, and an optimistic view of the future and our self-confidence, while at the same time building on the foundation of our present resources.

When we rely on God—and we do rely on God—and depend on deep fraternal dialogue conducted in an atmosphere of strong interaction for better performance and encouraging brightness in our hearts; and when we recall—without ever forgetting—the standpoint of our nation, which we know very well; when we depend on our elements of strength, having analyzed them; when we locate, after careful study, the causes of our weakness and deal with them with common responsibility; when we fear nobody but God as we move toward unity; and when we depend on our peoples and nation, which have proved capable of shouldering their responsibility under extremely complicated circumstances—only then we can guarantee for ourselves a strength that knows no weakness, that does not abandon established rights, that can look confidently toward a better future, and that can restore every lost right—especially our right to dear Palestine, which is waiting impatiently to see Arab flags, especially the Palestinian flag, flying over it and over the domes of holy Jerusalem.

If the strongest and most powerful action within our nation is not sufficient to constitute the foundation for the nation's common action and policy, then the nation and the leaders of the Arab countries now meeting in Baghdad are advised to avoid the danger and mistake of constructing the nation's position and policies on the foundations of less capable or less well-prepared action, or on the weakest Arab position. If the policies of a group are built on the weakest or least efficient of its stances, then all steps thereafter will be based on a mistaken foundation and we will arrive too late—if the deadly monsters, so to speak, have not eaten up every member of the group, one after another, before the group arrives at its destination and goal. If this mistake occurs, the nation will suffer horrible setbacks, God forbid, and it will be deprived of energy and action—the last, most capable and efficient energy and action in the nation. In that event, we will lose many opportunities and increase the enemies' ambitions, rather than make the enemies reluctant and afraid to harm the nation, its security, and its sovereignty.

Those who are less capable among us must work hard for greater ability that matches, is integrated with, and interacts with what is agreed on by the group so that those in the lead can see and interact with those in the rear. And the whole group must encourage those with greater ability to move forward with all their support and good wishes of success, without letting this lead the more capable ones into adventurism or isolation.

We must regard the power of any Arab state as belonging to all, unless it is used against the Arab nation. By the same token, weakness in any one of our countries is bound to affect all of us, and it will constitute a crack in the wall of our pan-Arab security. Wherever weakness develops, it must respond to any offer of help from the more powerful Arab states in order to rid itself of its weakness, especially when weakness would undermine our stance vis-a-vis foreign powers, and could manifest itself in the granting of facilities to these foreign powers out of fear, thus compromising the Arab nation and its pan-Arab security. In the event of an Israeli attack, the Arabs must guard against a short-lived response. This is because Israeli force is based on the strategy of attacking major targets in the shortest period of time possible and with a minimum of losses to its military, economic, and manpower resources. And since the resources of the Arab nation cannot be quickly mobilized for reasons related to the spread of the Arab homeland, and given that we are 21 countries, among other reasons, it would not be possible for us to deploy our resources in the right places at short notice. Therefore, it behooves us to declare clearly that if Israel attacks and strikes, we will strike powerfully. If it uses weapons of mass destruction against our nation, we will use against it the weapons of mass destruction in our possession. There will be no concession on the liberation of Palestine. The United States has demonstrated that it is primarily responsible for the aggressive and expansionist policies of the Zionist entity against the Palestinian Arab people and the Arab nation—never mind the occasional disagreement it professes with this or that stance or behavior of the Zionist entity. It would not have been possible for the Zionist entity to engage in aggression and expansion at the Arabs' expense if it did not possess the force and political cover provided by the United States—the main source of the Zionist entity's aggressive military force, and the main source of its financial resources. It is the United States that largely provides the political cover for the Zionist entity's policies through Washington's intransigent stands at the UN Security Council and its exercise of the veto to thwart condemnation of the Zionist aggressive policies and crimes.

Arab security and interests are on the receiving end of these American policies. We have to say as much to the United States without equivocation. We have to tell the United States that it cannot afford to pursue such policies and at the same claim the friendship of the Arabs. This is not a policy of friendship. It is a harmful policy that threatens the security and vital interests of the Arab nation. If we say as much to the United States in unison and with the same tone and power and clarity, I am confident that Washington will take us and our interests seriously. Then, it will make its mind up one way or another. If the United States should then decide to be a friend to the Arabs, the Arabs would be happy, since, then, Washington will have based its friendship on reciprocity and mutual respect, and refrain from bringing harm to the Arabs. This is what the Arabs want.

The Arab nation must formulate its ties with other states on the basis of their stands on Arab rights, interests, and pan-Arab security.

Based on these facts, which were proven by tangible experience, no Israeli aggression against the Arab nation can be isolated from the desire of American imperialism in this regard. I use the word "imperialism" only here. In fact I have not used this word for a long time. But when I saw the memorandum presented by the group working at the U.S. State Department, indicating that we should not use the word imperialism, I decided to use it.

Based on these facts, which have been verified by tangible experience, no Israeli aggression against the Arab nation can be isolated from the designs and the support of U.S. imperialism in this regard. This requires that we build a unified response to this aggression and against those who shield it and supply it with its requirements in all fields and domains. Then the nation will be in a better condition, and will we all be in better shape. The Arab nation will have the opportunity for serious, genuine, and deep relations with all world states, including the United States.

Only then will we be in a better condition and better position, and only then will we be more effective and more worthy of winning solid respect in the world. We must announce with a strong voice that no one, whoever he may be, can enjoy our resources and wealth at the same time that he is fighting us and opposing our scientific and technological progress. We must transform this principle into policy and words to be implemented and unanimously adhered to. Everyone must realize that success in battles with the enemies—when these battles become necessary—cannot be realized once the dust of footsteps and gun smoke begin covering their arenas. It begins with the preparations and solidarity in the social, economic, political, and information fields and with the successful preparations to realize aims in all walks of life and on both popular and official levels. This will be based on the principle that our fate is one, our future is in the same direction, aggression against any one of us is an aggression against all of us, and the enemy of any one of us is an enemy of the entire nation. Confronting this enemy will be comprehensive in terms of pooling the nation's resources in the same direction—territorial waters, airspace, territories, sea straits, canals—all of them will be placed in the service of the battle fronts and armies. Stands on these issues will be open and aboveboard. Then the Arab nation may not necessarily need military battles to safeguard all of its rights and regain the lost rights.

Brothers, at the Arab Cooperation Council summit held in Amman on 24 March 1990, we talked about international developments and our positions regarding them. Not much time has passed since then. We will make the analysis we presented in Amman a basis for a brotherly and thorough discussion, which will be enriched with your broad experience and with your awareness of, and viewpoints and information on the turbulent international surroundings. Our deep-rooted nation, which has diverse and major resources, will be able to proudly stand fast in the face of the negative consequences resulting from the developments. It will also be able to interact with the positive consequences and deal with the new international surroundings in accordance with directions and formulas that are in harmony with its interests and obligations, which cannot be separated from the nation's security.

I would like to add something to the analysis I made in Amman: The conflict between the two giants—the hateful division of the world in light of the influence and interests of these giants at that time, as well as the effect of their artillery shells which fell in the theater of conflict—which the arena of the Arab nation and community were not safe from—have severely harmed our nation and disturbed the balance of its character. Our nation, therefore, has not adopted a single, clear approach compatible with its heritage and independence and appropriate for its greatness. The forces of this nation—or, let us say, a major part of its forces—have been split between the influence of the two superpowers, their interests and strategies. This influence extends to popular and official quarters and positions. Our attention, thus, has been diverted to more than one direction, contrary to what we aspire to. The formulation of a single policy by the whole nation on the developments of world policies was affected by difficulties beyond those arising from the fact that there are many Arab states and regimes. The shadow of that situation haunted our policies—policies which good people wanted to be united toward a general direction—although many details of that situation have taken on the local color of our countries.

Based on the above, and in view of other causes, many misgivings, doubts, plots, and harmful actions began to spread among us, to the extent that some Arabs began to race outside the Arab arena toward names, policies, signals, and actions significant to one of the two parties of the conflict. Similarly, our weapons and wills have become burdened—in case of use or nonuse—with the atmosphere of international conflict and its objectives. This, in addition to other factors, hindered agreement on a unified policy among the Arabs. The negative aspects I have mentioned in my statement do not exclude Iraq. Iraq, too, has been affected by the repercussions of the international policy created by the state of polarization, in accordance with its location and characteristics. We have become divided—even in names. Or it might be that we have divided ourselves in this way, by various descriptions—leftist, rightist, reactionary, progressive—according to international terminology. Thus, an odious, divisionist psychological state was created, instead of our Arab policy being built on the single bridge of a unified nation.

The principles of Arab nationalism of our time-honored nation—our chivalrous, pan-Arab bonds—that are stirred in our minds and hearts by usurped Palestine have remained constant, although other elements and factors played a frequent role adding to elements of disagreement and dispute. These elements and factors, however, have not been destined to remain constant in view of the force of countercurrents and reactions which we have earlier referred to.

Now, after the removal of the nightmare of the odious division of the world and the conflict that weakened the crystallization of a single human stance on the issues of humanity—which was a stumbling block in the face of national and pan-Arab stands that are basically related to the uniqueness of their circumstances and capabilities—human beings today have opportunities for a new state of being, a genuine consolidation, in addition to other gains. These opportunities will open to the Arabs the broader range of a unified, more constant Arab policy if they know how to deal positively with the developments of international policy and its points of strength, and if they know how to diminish—if not ward off completely—the negative results of these surprising developments. Thus, anyone who has had reason to be influenced by the policy of polarization should quickly abandon his previous position. We will address this call, and we will ask you if you think that your country, Iraq, was affected, or is currently under the influence of, any policies of polarization countries.

We have to maintain a balanced policy based on the interests of the nation and the peoples of our countries in accordance with the relationship between nationalism and pan-Arabism. Otherwise, we will all taste bitterness or sink amid the negative aspects and confusion of world politics without taking advantage of any of its positive aspects. If this occurs, God forbid, the fault will not be with our nation or peoples, but with us—the officials who assume full responsibility at the level of governments as well as the political and popular currents of our nation in the Arab homeland.

Regarding the relationship with Iran, you know, O brothers, that we have chosen peace—as Arabs, not only in Iraq—with all world nations and states, particularly with the nations and states neighboring the Arab homeland. Among these is Iran. This was also our policy before the war, from the very first day of it, and until the day preceding the cease-fire.

We have stressed this position in tangible initiatives, the latest of which is the present exchange of messages between us and Iran, which we hope would lead to a direct and deep dialogue leading to comprehensive peace. In this way we hope to preserve the inalienable rights of all parties, to entrench the principle of noninterference in other countries' domestic affairs, to respect each other's options in accordance with a policy that cannot change with desires and circumstances so that the door of evil and its flame can be closed forever by building sound relations between the Arab nation and the Iranian peoples.

Glory and mercy to Arabism's martyrs everywhere. Glory to the people of the occupied land in Palestine and to their just struggle against the Zionist aggression and occupation. God is great and glory to the Arabs. May God preserve you and guide our steps on the path of honest brotherhood and humanity—steps emphasized by the principles and values of our true religion, for which God chose a prophet from our nation, in order to communicate it to humanity. May God protect you, O brothers and honorable audience. Men said to them: "A great army is gathering against you and frightened them, but it only increased their faith. They said: For us God sufficient, and he is the best disposer of affairs." [Koranic verse]. Peace be upon you. [applause]

Mubarak Addresses Opening

NC2805170090 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1318 GMT 28 May 90

[Speech by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak at the opening session of the Arab summit conference in Baghdad on 28 May—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Brother President Saddam Husayn, conference chairman; Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses:

It pleases me to begin my speech by extending to Brother President Saddam Husayn and to the fraternal Iraqi people most sincere thanks and appreciation for hosting this conference and providing the atmosphere which enables us to deliberate together in a pure pan-Arab spirit and with complete awareness of the responsibility to achieve what is best for our nation and our peoples, to defend their interests and rights, and to express their hopes and ambitions in confronting the challenges facing them.

Our meeting in the land of steadfast Iraq and in the victorious city of Baghdad embodies for our peoples and the entire world meanings which we wish to underline and deepen, meanings that focus on the ability of the Arab nation to rise up to the level of responsibility, to undertake diligent collective activity to protect the national march, to possess self-confidence and hope for the future, and to prepare heroically to sacrifice for the sake of right and principle.

There are immortal moments in the life of nations and people which retain special importance throughout their history and which have profound concrete effects on their future and fate. I think that we are facing one of these decisive moments that represents a transitional point from one era to another and a crossroads that poses specific options and alternatives, which we must study and analyze intensively, consistent with the challenges of the age and the effect of events on it.

The first thing that crosses our minds when we form our joint view of the developments taking place around us and the challenges facing us is to note a basic and undoubted fact. This is that the Arab nation possesses material, spiritual, and moral resources which can enable it to stand fast and triumph in various battles and make it possible for it to proceed on the path it has chosen for itself with awareness and ability, without fear or hesitation, and with complete faith that this nation is able under all circumstances to renew its youthfulness, reinforce its vigor, and provide all the necessary elements to wage the cultural battles facing it.

Each day events are proving that this nation's ability to give is a creative and continuous ability. It is inexhaustible and unceasing. Its creative ability stems from an unceasing spring. Its sons lack no ability to deal with changing circumstances and successive developments, with all the needed clarity of thinking, flexibility of movement, and ability to move toward the goal with firm, confident steps.

For many years and on every occasion, we called for enhancing Arab solidarity as a basic and indispensable step to strengthen the Arab ranks and to enable the nation to pool its potential and resources to confront dangers and challenges. This will produce good results and give hope. We have always maintained that different views should not infringe on the unity of ranks and that disagreement should not mar the climate because a multiplicity and variety of views are characteristic of every human activity. This has become one of the most outstanding characteristics of the new society as we stand at the threshold of the 21st century.

No fair and objective individual can deny that today we have greater Arab solidarity and that there are indications we will achieve further solidarity in the upcoming stage. This solidarity will be achieved not through dreams and wishes but through genuine effort and hard work along a charted course. Our peoples' consciousness of their common history, cultural heritage, and identical interests constitutes a safety valve and a factor of stability for the modern Arab movement. Our peoples' ability to express this consciousness in various forms has become established well enough that no one any longer insists on rigid forms that could restrict our march and cripple our minds.

In this context we all welcome the unity established by our brothers in noble Yemen. We offer brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, his deputy brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, their colleagues, and all sons of the Yemeni people our congratulations on this splendid pan-Arab march. We ask God Almighty to safeguard this wise step and to strengthen and foster it so that it will achieve the cherished goal.

Dear brothers: We meet today amid a changing regional and international situation and amid swift developments whose importance and seriousness we cannot ignore or belittle. We must continue our efforts to examine and deal with these developments and to affect them as much as they will affect our rights and interests, present and future.

In this short speech, I do not want to discuss all points on the summit agenda; instead, I would like to point out, in particular, certain issues about which I find it necessary to have close views and opinions in order to have a common ground for an overall concept of all subsidiary issues. The primary issue worth proposing is that of peace and the need to emphasize its Arab comprehensive concept in the way we set forth in our meeting in Casablanca a year ago. I hope that you will agree with me that the Arab nation does not view peace as a necessity dictated by events, developments, pressure, or influences; instead it is a free and confident choice stemming from our values, heritage, and view of our interests. To sum up, it is a choice compatible with our principles and goals which genuinely expresses our masses' ambitions.

The Arab peace is one that rests on right and justice and that rejects the imposition of a fait accompli or the abandonment of rights. It is the peace of the mighty and the capable, not that of the weak and incapable, because weakness begets paralysis, kills the ability to move, and arouses fear of surrender and shame.

It has been a long-established Arab tradition, particularly after Islam dawned on the Arab land, to judge matters by what is right before resorting to the use of the sword. This is because those who are confident of their rights and their capabilities walk on firm ground for establishing their relations with others on just foundations that could preserve each party's rights and legitimate interests, safeguard them from aggression and encroachement, guarantee stability and satisfaction, and enable them to devote their resources toward development and reconstruction.

The Arab peace cannot be one-sided because by nature it is a program for arranging relationships with both neighboring and remote peoples and a method for settling differences and disputes. This is a necessity for community life in the past, present, and future. Thereupon, if a certain party decides to defy the Arabs in their peace march, we do not lack the ability to confront it with all that this confrontation requires in terms of resolve, firmness, solidity, and severity.

We have always called for the establishment of peace, and this has been clearly obvious throughout the stages of Arab struggle both in old and modern times. Our determination to liquidate colonialism and our refusal to join foreign alliances have formed a fundamental part of our philosophy and movement and have served as the driving force in the battles we launched to liberate our lands and free our will. On this premise, we did not hesitate to face our opponents with the challenge of peace at the peak of our victory during the most honorable battle we have fought in our contemporary history in October 1973. We also followed it through with advanced steps as represented by the Arab peace plan endorsed by the Fes summit in September 1982, the Palestinian peace plan which has shaken the world conscience since the autumn of 1988, the peace plan issued by the Casablanca emergency summit in May 1989, and the Iraqi peace plan proposed by Brother President Saddam Husayn to end the war with Iran, which we hope will be put into practice with daring and confident steps in the coming few months. All this formed a stable Arab foundation for peace, even before the slogans of peace became the most important features of the new world community and before various countries both in the East and West felt the need to emphasize their commitment to peace as the only approach to defining their role in the international arena.

The second issue is the one that concerns pan-Arab security. First, I would like to state that our understanding of pan-Arab security does not proceed from our perception of the threats facing us alone. Instead, it stems first from our awareness of our strength and the elements of our glory and pride. In this context, strength is not confined to military strength alone, but it involves the various elements of cultural, political, and economic strength, which all contribute toward molding a fortified Arab front that could deter wrongdoing and aggression and abort any thought of threatening the Arabs and undermining their sense of security and stability.

Threats do not frighten or intimidate us. They will not paralyze our movement or divert our attention from our aims and interests. In the past, we were exposed to similar and even fiercer threats, but we managed through our intrinsic power and with the support of friends—and they are numerous—to confront these threats and nip them in the bud before they could realize their destructive and subversive effects. We all have stood beside the fraternal Libyan Jamahiriyah when it was exposed to aggression and have gone a long way toward eliminating and uprooting the elements that spawn these threats and toward creating an atmosphere that could enable the Libyan people to assume their role in achieving glory and progress. Likewise, all the Arab states have hastened to support sisterly Iraq in the face of the threats launched by some circles. Thus, we all managed to put things in their right context and to explain the truth about Iraq's aims and objectives, which are peaceful and humane objectives that could be summed up in the need to create conditions and situations that could guarantee peace and stability for the Arab states and for the other countries in the region on the basis of respect for the rights and duties, commitment to legitimacy, and avoidance of aggression and treachery.

By the same logic, we forcefully stand against the threats leveled by irresponsible elements against the fraternal Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. We reiterate that any attempt to threaten Jordan's entity, and its safety and stability will be confronted by us with all firmness and severity because the Jordanian entity is a basic part of our entity. Its safety is a sine qua non for the attainment of security and peace in the region. The peoples' destinies and fates will not be a ploy in the hands of adventurers and maniacs, whose fanaticism has blinded them and caused them to lose sight and perception. It must be clear to everyone that there is a firm Arab and international commitment to Jordan's entity, structure, security, safety, territorial integrity, and unity of people.

Likewise, fraternal Lebanon, who is struggling heroically to escape from its bloody tragedy, will never be subject to aggression or threat. Not a single Lebanese will fail to respond to the homeland's call should it be in any danger, and not a single Arab will fail to stand beside this noble state in its confrontation of threats and dangers.

As for our kinfolks in the occupied territories, they are in all our hearts as they continue their bold intifadah against the occupation and oppression and prove an extraordinary awareness of struggle by confronting repression and oppression with an iron will that is the envy of many peoples and nations. It is this will that enables them to face the aggression on firm ground and with fearless hearts and to keep their eyes on the aim, thus raising the slogans of peace based on right and justice at the peak of their predicament.

This is the true and honest picture of Arab reality. It is a picture that inspires confidence and hope and dispels the feelings of despair and frustration. We are not a nation under siege that is threatened by dangers and pulled by storms from all directions, nor are we people whose strength has collapsed and who are no longer impregnable. Rather, from the components of power we possess what enabled us in the past to face the mightiest confrontations and what could guarantee for us that we will confront similar ones in the future, in order to safeguard our march and preserve our rights. What is important in all this is that we continue to consolidate our front and develop our national and pan-Arab capabilities because the safety of the Arab front from within is the crucial element for which there is no alternative and without which there could be no progress.

Perhaps it is appropriate, dear brothers, to pause over two points that are especially important for us in view of their connection to pan-Arab security and their effect on our view of the future for the region where we live and for the nation to which we belong:

The first point I want to note is the one related to the emigration of Soviet Jews and the settlement of increasing numbers of them in the occupied Arab territory in a way that will negatively affect the future of peace and the security and stability of all countries in the region. I believe that the starting point in addressing this development with its complicated implications is that we should not discuss and handle it out of fear of what the future holds in store, we should not be content with protesting stands that lack substance and are unable to produce any effect, and we should not create hostility or tension with a country or a group of countries with whom we have no contradictions or incompatible interests and which have long stood by us in the various stages of our struggle. This is because if we do this, we will contribute, intentionally or unintentionally, to increasing the damage to our interests from this development. Our clear objective must be to prevent the situation from deteriorating in a way that might threaten pan-Arab security and harm supreme Arab interests.

This view requires us to emphasize our categorical rejection of anything leading to Israel's seizing more occupied Arab land and its gem, holy Jerusalem, or putting pressure on the steadfast sons of the Palestinian people to leave their country and give up their land. These methods will be to no avail. This people has proven throughout their history that they are one of the most capable peoples for confronting the challenge with firm resolve and relentless willpower. Moreover, we view with much concern any development that might lead to shaking the political, social, and economic stability in neighboring Arab countries.

I can say before you that what we have heard from President Mikhail Gorbachev in the past few days indicates unequivocally that the Soviet leadership fully realizes the implications of this problem and comprehends its effects and consequences. In addition, this leadership well understands the specific Arab demand that is not incompatible with human rights and does not stem from fanaticism or racism. The Arab demand is based on respecting human rights, both ours and others, and on faith in equality among various nations and peoples irrespective of their national, religious, and racial affiliations. We are confident that the Soviet Union will take this view into consideration when it considers this issue in light of the Israeli actions that insist on defying the international community and on continuing to violate the human rights of Arabs. In addition, we have felt that the same attitude is shared by the U.S. leadership and President personally, as well as by the European leaders we contacted on this issue. We can expect that a number of calculated steps curbing the negative effects of this emigration and stopping the damage to pan-Arab security will emerge in the next few months.

Even if our expectations and hopes in this regard do not materialize for one reason or another, we will not stand before this challenge deprived of our will or be unable to act. We have room to undertake active efforts and precisely calculated steps.

The second point pertains to our proposal to make the Middle East an area free of weapons of mass destruction; the nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. It is no secret to anyone that if this proposal is adopted, it will constitute an advanced step toward ensuring Arab existence at present and in the future, clearing our land and air from nuclear and chemical threats. We take a firm stand against such threats, based on our legitimate right to self- defense and to repulse any attempt to violate our inalienable rights. This stand is also consistent with the concepts, values, and basic trends of the age. Therefore, it was natural that this proposal should win the acceptance and welcome of all the influential forces in the international arena in the East, West, North, and South. In this proposal, everyone has found a suitable opportunity to extend the umbrella of protection from nuclear, chemical, and other weapons to an area which many see as sitting on a volcano.

The third issue which I would like to deal with on this occasion is that of the Arab message to the outside world. This issue has assumed particular importance in recent years following the revolution that took place in the information sphere and in video and audio means of communication. This media revolution contributes a great deal to the peoples' view of events and issues and influences their judgment on the legitimacy and justice of such events and issues.

In the light of these facts, and out of our belief in the justness of our cause and our demands, we state that the Arab message at this particular time should be humane, logical, realistic, and consistent with the values and concepts of the age. It should be in harmony with our position and free of exaggeration and intimidation. It should avoid whatever can harm the supreme national interests. In other words, the purpose of the Arab message is not to express fears and feelings, but is primarily to defend the interests, to protect the rights, to acquaint others with the facts, to influence positions, and to ensure the greatest measure of support for Arab rights.

As a result of direct contacts with many world leaders, we have sensed the sympathy of these leaders and the peoples they represent with our positions and policies and their support for our constructive and positive initiatives. The Iraqi people have lost nothing, but have instead won a great deal as a result of the peace initiatives made by their capable and astute leadership. The Palestinian people have also not abandoned a right nor lost any gains when their leaders were able to courageously make initiatives. These initiatives did not constitute a retreat from a position or disavowal of a right; nor did they represent a concession in that sense of the word. All they did was openly express what everyone believed in their hearts to be the desired objective and hope. In other words, these initiatives reflected the Palestinian demands, which in essence are human and just demands. It is difficult for anyone to disregard or reject these demands if they were put in the right form and within the sound frame.

Demands cannot be achieved by wishes. The fate of peoples cannot be determined through oneupmanship and self-deception. They can be achieved through long and difficult struggle with many obstacles and hardships. Such struggle is familiar to genuine fighters who are true to their pledge to God. The first prerequisites of this struggle are faithfulness to oneself and to others, telling the truth to the masses, and faith that right will triumph sooner or later.

Dear brothers, the final issue I would like to discuss briefly at the end of my speech is that which pertains to the Arab peoples' right to obtain modern technology and to use it in the service of development and progress. There is no force whatsoever on earth that can stand between us and this legitimate goal because the right to progress and benefit from modern inventions to change the image of life in Arab society is an inalienable natural right. Furthermore, it is one of man's basic rights which no one can restrain or obstruct. Besides, it is a right that strengthens with our ability to move in a framework of integrated capabilities and coordination of strides and stands.

We have unique scientists who will ensure that we keep abreast of this age's latest achievements in science and modern technology. We do not lack the required industrial base and the potential which we could mobilize to absorb the latest developments in the production, administration, and services systems, whether those related to civilian life or to defense purposes.

All these are interconnencted and interwoven aspects affecting one another. Modern technology is no longer confined to one person or to a certain international group. Many developing countries in Asia, Africa, aand Latin America have developed technological methods that are compatible with their circumstances and needs. We have a broad opportunity to cooperate with these fraternal and friendly countries to achieve this goal.

O dear brothers, we can see on the near and far horizons more good omens of well-being and prosperity for this noble nation than we see ill omens of evil and danger.

Our strength lies in our ability to see our road and to define our course, as well as in realizing that peoples' interests can be achieved not by expressions of anger but by a confident insistence on the goal.

Also, our strength stems from the unity of our ranks, cohesion of our will, and firmness of our front. Then will our great building stand up, surrounded by strong fortresses that will protect it from aggression and keep it from any evil. Then the banners of Arabism will fly high in the world. Then our march will proceed forward and our processions will take the road of light and justice, disseminating peace and sowing glory and progress.

May God grant us all success. May peace and God's mercy be upon you.

'Arafat Addresses Session

JN2805205590 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1945 GMT 28 May 90

[Speech delivered by Yasir 'Arafat, identified as president of the state of Palestine, at the evening session of the Arab summit conference in Baghdad 28 May—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Our Lord, decide thou between us and our people in truth, for thou art the best to decide. [Koranic verse] Verily, we have granted thee a manifest victory: That God may forgive thee thy faults of the past and those to follow; fulfill His favor to thee, and guide thee on the straight way. And that God may help thee with powerful help. [Koranic verses]

My brother, the knight Saddam Husayn. Brothers, Arab Kings, Presidents, and Amirs: We meet today in Baghdad after I urged you, my brother the knight, to host this conference and you have answered the call. The answer came at this high level of responsibility and in response to the call of pan-Arab duty. Our meeting in Baghdad means that we stand on the firm ground of the rock of confrontation against the threat of the challenges facing us. It also means that we will read the first pages in the book of the new Arab future as we have not read them for such a long time.

What then can not move in us, here and now, the most powerful energies to defend collectively the Arab identity, homeland, and history with great self-confidence, which can neither be touched by the dust of passing setbacks nor by the attempts to monopolize the future of mankind?

We are here in Baghdad after witnessing a few days ago in Aden—together with brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his deputy, brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, and their loyal brothers—the birth of renewed Yemeni unity and the good tidings that this unity brings to modern Arab history in terms of its implications for unity that arouse glory and pride in us.

We stand here in Baghdad on one of the first sources of ancient human culture and not far from the heritage of our Arab-Islamic civilization, which still lives within us and around us. We never feel apart from the strength of the cultural and humanitarian message that was sent to us and others [by God]. Nor do we feel separated from our vigorous history, which modern and ancient invasions have tried unceasingly to disconnect from the history of civilization and the nation's heritage, faith, and beliefs.

Here, in the Tigris, run the pure waters of prosperity for eternity, after sweeping into oblivion the caravans of the invaders who, for a short while and unexpectedly, and because fighters were disunited, managed to blacken, for a passing moment, the face of the Tigris.

This is Baghdad—the capital of impressive Arab culture, linking the rays of this culture and building the new Arab presence, amid international and regional tremors, on the foundation of the constancy of cultural and pan-Arab identity, which gives expression to the spirit of the nation and its unlimited human and material resources. Baghdad is the castle on whose walls we will depict the future Arab image in a manner compatible with our civilized, cultural, and material qualifications. It is time we ask earnestly and persistently about the causes of tension, which is no longer justifiable between capability and status, presence and existence, so that our Arab position—which is rife with disunity, disintegration, and disputes—will not remain on the map of the world in this image; so that parts of the one Arab body will not remain prey to ambitions, indifference, and denials; and so that our single positive image—that we have played some role in the past on the map of history—will not be altered.

History does not await anyone nor any people at any given stage, or even after life. Our human legitimacy, civilized capabilities, and our awareness of our effective role and positive way of dealing with the progression of the modern age are not inspired through contemplating history books alone. We also derive these from the strength of the present moment; from our self-image, the energies and wealth of this self; from this Arab human being who has not relinquished, even for a single day, his deep belief in the unity of language, culture, history, interest, and destiny from Tangier to Aden; from the thirst of our righteous martyrs who address God and land by the same words and message and sacrifice their lives for the same ideals and freedom; and from the retention of this Arab land, which encompasses the two oceans.

Proceeding from the above, we sense a pressing need to face the crucial danger posed to our pan-Arab security, whether collectively or singularly, and to discover the weapons of self-defense and the status we as Arabs deserve. These weapons are within our bodies, spirits, and lands. We Arabs are together on the map of the new Arab age: Ye are the best of peoples, evolved for mankind. [Koranic verses]

The international situation, which is being reorganized and rearranged in an environment of new polarization, should not lead us to despair or inaction before the destiny that others are arranging for us. This situation should invigorate our spirit of challenge and all the requirements of quick action in order to formulate the conditions appropriate for a collective Arab presence in the calculations of forces, although some—based on the arrogance of the strength they possess—feel that they have unrivalled control and hegemony over the destiny of the entire world.

It is true that the international balance of power has been disturbed, but the general context of world developments, which will give this balance its future shape, does not deprive regional powers of the opportunity to express themselves freely: Fain would they extinguish God's light with their mouths, but God will not allow but that His light should be perfected, even though the unbelievers may detest it. [Koranic verse]

The enemies of the Arab nation are racing against time to use world changes to advance their own hegemony and to reactivate their aggressive expansionist mentality. They are doing this after using the conflicts of World Wars I and II and the cold war period to play an extraordinary role in which the Zionist scheme constituted a spearhead against the Arab body. It is now possible, however, for this role to lose its traditional strength if joint Arab action can reformulate Arab relations at both the regional and international levels. These relations should be based on reciprocal interests, and the immense Arab capabilities. Expanding Arab economic relations should be used to serve our political interests and our pan-Arab rights. They should be used to bring about a solution to the problem of the Palestinian Arab people. In this way, one of the shameful contradictions between the capabilities of the Arabs and their world status can be ended.

We realize that the challenges facing us today are not only products of the current chaos in the world. Some major world forces are using us against ourselves; they use our strong capabilities in the calculations of their hegemony without respecting the most basic of our interests. Are we few, God's messenger? He said: No, but as many as the foam of the stream. [A saying attributed to Prophet Muhammad]

The threats against pan-Arab security and the security of each individual Arab country are growing and are being fueled by the temptations of the transitional period through which the world is passing before a new and different detente is formed. They are also being fueled by the dramatic changes among the Arab's traditional friends, who are now up to their ears in domestic problems. To help solve some of these domestic problems, the United States has set conditions that blackmail Eastern European countries and weaken their role in the search for a just peace for the Middle East. It is using the emigration of Jews—the emigration of people and brains—and setting other economic, political, and diplomatic conditions for providing assistance.

In this context, we are required to formulate a political and cultural plan to promote ties of friendship and cooperation with East European countries, and to use Arab economic power to influence the new situation in these countries. We are also required to promote relations of cooperation with Western Europe so it can play an effective role in the Middle East that serves our mutual interests and the interests of the peoples of the north and south Mediterranean, and which promotes our role in the new international environment. There is also a need to bolster cooperation with the yellow giant, especially China and Japan and the surrounding countries in a way that helps us to define the features of the picture and the goals we aspire to. This is in addition to cooperation with countries of the Third World and the Nonaligned Movement, of which we are part.

Such a relationship needs a new and effective reformulation that is based on new bases and concepts, and on constructive and effective cooperation—effective, not subservient.

We are also connected in history, belief, message, and civilization to the Islamic environment. This connection requires us to improve the way we deal with this environment through new, creative methods that include the development of Islamic-Christian cooperation, the crux of which is Jerusalem.

Within this context, we urge Iranian officials and the fraternal Iranian peoples to turn over the bloody page of the recent past and to stand alongside us on the line of joint confrontation against the desires of our common Zionist enemy and its protectors, especially following the message sent by my brother, the knight Saddam Husayn, to them.

Contempt for Arab rights and existence reached a level whose continuation, along with the lack of practical and effective countermeasures, constitute a conspiracy to throw us out of the history of this age. It is time for the Arab nation to reconsider its relations with the various states, blocs, and forces in the world on the basis of the principle of balanced interests and mutual respect of rights; and on the basis of the unity of the pan-Arab interest and protecting and guaranteeing the Arab rights, at head of which are the rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

It is henceforth impermissible for us to keep the foreign interests in our Arab homeland, which enjoys an important strategic location, away from the danger and aggression to which we are exposed. ['Arafat repeating himself] It is henceforth impermissible for us to keep the foreign interests in our Arab homeland, which enjoys an important strategic location, away from the danger and aggression to which we are exposed. We are not here threatening anyone. We are not here threatening anyone. But, we demand, at least, that certain big states, particularly the United States of America, not use a double standard. We also demand that our rights be respected, just as we respect the rights of others.

Brother leaders, has it ever been recorded before that a country named the capital of another country and, thus, challenged the people's minds and consciences, the basic principles and international norms, and the resolutions of international unanimity? So, how does the U.S. Congress give itself the right to issue a resolution to consider holy Jerusalem a capital for Israel? How?

This invalid resolution constitutes an attack against Arab pride, Islamic pride, and the international will. It also constitutes an attack against the meaning and sanctity of Jerusalem and its sacred spiritual and cultural position in the hearts of Muslims and Christians.

Jerusalem is part of the occupied Palestinian territory. It is the capital of the state of Palestine. It is the capital of the state of Palestine. Any encroachment on its legal, religious, cultural, and historical status is a flagrant violation of the international conventions and resolutions. Strangely, the U.S. Congress resolution also contradicts the official position declared by the U.S. Administration, whose silence over this resolution encourages the Israeli authority to go too far into expansion, aggression, and massacres.

Israeli officials are in a state of confusion because of the international isolation imposed upon them and because of their internal crises caused by the blessed intifadah. These crises are getting more serious lately because the knights of freedom are fighting with their flesh and blood against tanks, tracked vehicles, and Israeli-U.S. planes. The Israelis are still determined to defy the world community and refuse to adapt in a positive way to the new international and human environment. They have rejected all this. They interpret international developments in their own way to exploit them and continue their traditional cold-war role. Brother Arabs: The Israelis are beating the drums of war. They are beating the drums of war.

The fierce campaign against fraternal Iraq is led by Israel and its Western imperialist protectors. I usually do not use the word imperialist. I adhere—thank God—to Islamic culture. However, I am using this word here for the same reasons [addressing the Iraqi president] you explained in the morning. They are imperialists, imperialists, imperialists. ['Arafat repeats himself] [applause] It is a campaign against elements of strength and independence in the Arab community. It is a campaign against the Arabs' natural right to keep pace with scientific progress, their right to possess advanced scientific and technological capabilities, and their right to develop their legitimate defensive capabilities. It should be noted that these constitute the basic means to protect Iraq's security and defend its sovereignty and pan-Arab security as a whole. Under the leadership of the brave Arab knight Saddam Husayn, Iraq fought a courageous war in defense of the homeland's eastern gate on behalf of Iraq and the Arab nation. Iraq has, furthermore, provided the Arabs with the necessary elements of strength that some people have been calling for, and the necessary strategic parity that some have advocated, in order to deter those acquisitive people who want to desecrate the Arab nation. We are not warmongers. We are, however, seekers of rights, freedom, and sovereignty with respect to the dignity, wealth, and homeland that are God's gift. Iraq's defensive capabilities have restored to the Arabs the strong belief in the ideals of struggle, jihad, and pan-Arabism. They have also provided the Palestinian stone with the necessary fuel and assistance, and have revitalized the necessary alternatives for defending land, freedom, and peace with all the required methods to reinforce this defense. If the enemy, which is armed with more than 200 nuclear warheads insists that the alternative to peace is the continuation of the lengthy, lengthy, lengthy [repeats himself] state of no-war, no-peace—the state of inertia under which they have set up all the events and obstacles they need to ignore Arab rights and attack them. [sentence as heard] They should fully realize now that the capabilities of Iraq and the Arab nation will deprive them of the pleasure of a short or lightning war to which they had become accustomed. We declare our support for Iraq, which has enhanced the capabilities of the Arab nation and provided the Arab community with the opportunity to have an equal weight in the calculations of the new international forces. The importance of any effective Arab role had been dropped from the calculations of the international forces. The ferocity of the campaign against our beloved Iraq, the threats to the fraternal Libyan Jamahiriyah, in addition to bombing Libya and the headquarters of my brother leader Mu'ammar [al-Qadhdhafi] by U.S. planes, the way it happened in fraternal Tunisia by Israeli planes, as well as the continuous threats to the dear Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan—Sharon met on 3 and 4 May with three rabbis and the hawks. [sentence as heard] They said there is no solution but to reoccupy Lebanon and Jordan and deport the Palestinians. It is a campaign against the potential of the Arabs and a threat to their security and future. They understand now the weight the Arab nation can bring to bear in the new international environment if the Arabs can forge a new Arab strategy based on real Arab solidarity and an understanding of common dangers, interests, and defense.

Hence, I call on the Collective Arab Defense Council to meet immediately within a period of time not exceeding one month in order to confront these challenges and threats and to protect pan-Arab security. Your Excellency President Abu-'Udayy [Saddam Husayn], you epitomized in your speech the Arab as well as the international situation. Therefore, I suggest that this speech be a guideline for our conference, and that we derive and formulate from it the strategy of future Arab action. It is time for us to realize the importance of formulating a unified Arab position and an effective Arab solidarity in order to confront the new challenges and to promote the role of our Arab nation in light of the new international situation. It is important to do this in a manner that will serve world peace as well as our Arab nation's interests and goals, which are in line with the humanitarian climate that will lead to a just solution of the Palestinian people's issue based on international legitimacy and the Arab summit resolutions, especially the Algiers and Casablanca resolutions.

The Palestinian people are leading the battle of their Arab nation in the heart of fire, hell, and massacre. The past six days were a massacre. Thirty-one martyrs fell, and more than 2,000 people were wounded. I did not count the martyrs and the wounded who have fallen since yesterday. On the frontline of the holy land, which is blessed by God, our unarmed children's flesh mixes with the steel of tanks and the bleeding songs of freedom. The intifadah's people, who epitomize every meaning and value of Arabism and embody the exploding forces of freedom and its struggler heroes, constitute the first human fence of defense of the home of Arabism, al-Aqsa Mosque, and the Dome of the Rock, from which Prophet Muhammad, God's blessings be upon him, ascended to the throne, and of the cradle of Christ.

We are together with our brothers in Jordan. With the sacrifice of the martyrs, who do not ask for anything, with the sacrifice of the martyrs, O brother leaders, who do not ask for anything, with the faith of the heroic strugglers who do not ask for anything, with the patience of the steadfast prisoners who do not ask for anything, with the sacrifice of the wounded who do not ask for anything, and with the pain of the patient mothers who do not ask for anything, the struggler people of the intifadah continue the battle of defense of the frontline, and continue to raise the head of the homeland and promote freedom to the level of sanctity. They also generate in the Arab conscience the perpetual light of a son in the history of land, the land of lands, and a light from heaven. They also move the human conscience that was about to move to its antithesis.

O brothers, your people there are being slain. O brothers, your justice there is lost. O brothers, your sanctities there are being desecrated. O Arab brothers, your Palestinian people are looking forward to you with the blood of their hearts in their eyes. They are looking forward to you more than ever. What are you going to do for them? Three years of intifadah are there, and the intifadah will continue until victory, God willing. What will you do to speed up victory and lessen suffering, death, and oppression? They do not ask for anything other than unity, because they know that they will be strong with that unity. Their defense of security and the independence of their stone is a defense of pan-Arab security. Their defense of pan-Arab security is also a defense of the rest of the homeland, honor, and existence.

The intifadah was started to last until the Israeli occupation is ended and the Palestinian people achieve their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state over their national soil. Over more than 30 months of suffering and heroism the Palestinian people have never stopped nurturing their revolutionary spirits with a deep belief in and affiliation with the militant heritage of their nation and supplying the spirits of the nation with lessons of sacrifice and patriotism. Over more than 30 months, the Palestinians have been using all possible methods—stones and glass—to express their rejection of the occupation, and they managed to destroy the myth of the invincible army. Between 60,000 and 70,000 soldiers are daily confronting our people and children on the soil of Palestine.

The intifadah also divided the Israeli community on the central issue which they concealed for five decades; namely, the existence of the Palestinian people and their right to freedom and independence. The intifadah also managed to push Israel's political life into a crisis from which Israel has not yet emerged. The intifadah has undermined so-called Israeli national unity government and has subjected Israel's image before the Israeli community, the world, and the Jews throughout the world to criticism, trial, and condemnation.

At this regional and international level, the intifadah opened new horizons for the Arab struggle and proved that the free popular will can face the most destructive and brutal means of oppression and preoccupy the enemy forces when the Arabs are busy. Therefore, the political, media, financial, and moral support provided by the Arabs to their Palestinian brothers, whether big or small, sufficient or insufficient, bolsters the Arab defenses against challenges. We wholeheartedly thank our brothers who supported us financially in our battle against Israel's expansionist ambitions aimed at establishing the state of [Greater] Israel. My brother Mu'ammar [al-Qadhdhafi] this morning (?saw) this map. This is the picture. It is one of the AIPAC [American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee] documents distributed in America, and it was published by the U.S. journal GEO on 19 February 1989; that is, last year. The map covers all of Jordan, the entire Lebanon, all of Palestine, half of Sinai, half of Syria, two-thirds of Iraq, and one-third of Saudi Arabia up to Medina. The map is also shown on their 10-agora coin, as you can see it magnified by my brothers in the Arab League. This is the Greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates. They printed it on their currency and published it in newspapers and magazines without hesitation. The intifadah is qualitatively contributing to curbing these expansionist ambitions.

Thus, the accomplishment of the national Palestinian solution and the continuation of the intifadah, which is your responsibility as much as the responsibility of the Palestinian people, will fortify the pan-Arab situation and besiege Israel's expansionist objectives.

Despite the heavy human and material losses inflicted on the Palestinian people through their resolved heroic struggle under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, this people, our Arab brothers, pledge that they will continue the revolution and the intifadah until victory, God willing. [applause]

Thus far, we have offered up 80,000 wounded, 1,170 martyrs, and 600 miscarriages due to the use of internationally-banned chemical weapons against our people—and this is testified by two committees, one Belgian and the other American. There are also 6,500 handicapped and 85,000 detainees in mass detention camps. This is in addition to the demolition, destruction, and sealing of 2,870 houses and the destruction of 80,000 dunums of land with 88,000 fruit-bearing trees, and the closure of universities and schools for three years. Twenty-six thousand students are out of their schools, which continue to be under siege. Forty-thousand students are not being allowed to graduate from high schools. This is in addition to our losses in agriculture, industry, labor, transportation, and religious tourism—and you know that we live from religious tourism as Palestine is the land of holy places.

Our people's losses over the past 30 months are estimated at $2.95 billion, which has not been compensated by anyone. Within the same period, the enemy lost $12.3 billion, including the cost of maintaining 70,000 soldiers, security men, and border police. The enemy found in the United States and other countries people to compensate them. According to our official statistics and the U.S. Rand Institute's statistics, the PLO has only received $2.6 billion in 27 years, and we thank you for this. This is approximately $90 million a year, which hardly covers the martyrs' [families] alone. Do you know that the Palestinian people stand with surprise and disbelief when they hear and read about support resolutions, very little of which are implemented? I thank my brothers who have fulfilled all of their obligations.

To whom should I complain and voice my worry? To whom should I voice the worries of this Palestinian people? Should I say: We stand alone? Should I say: We stand alone? O creator of the sky and earth, to You I voice my worry. Still, our people will tighten the belt. They will, God willing, continue their jihad and revolution. They will, God willing, continue their intifadah until their reach liberated Jerusalem, the capital of the state of Palestine.

In the name of God, the compassionate the merciful. On that day shall the believers rejoice with the help of God. He helps whom He will, and He is exalted in might, most merciful. It is the promise of God. Never does God depart from his promise; but most men understand not. [Koranic verses]

Mr. President: Brothers, Arab Kings, Presidents, and Amirs: The Israeli Government insists on pursuing the policy of arrogance and disdain of the international community's will. Encouraged by the United States of America, it has directed against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation a new aggressive escalation represented by the judaization of the occupied territories and settlement of Jewish emigrants from the Soviet Union, East Europe, and other countries. This constitutes a growing threat against Arab national security. This immigration, which tops the list of priorities for Israeli policy and the world Zionist movement—with flagrant U.S. support and exposed collusion, and the closing of the doors of the United States and other countries in the face of immigrants—constitutes a new attempt to revive the Zionist myth and dream of Greater Israel. If emigration is to be considered one of man's human rights, this right must end when the right of another man or another people begins.

Those in the West and the imperialist states who zealously advocate the Jewish man's right to emigrate are required to stop conspiring against the Palestinian man's and the Palestinian people's rights, which are being violated on a daily basis on the land of Palestine through murder and upheaval to settle the Jewish emigrant on the ruins of the Palestinian man and to prepare for the expulsion of the Palestinian people from their homeland.

The wise advocates of human rights realize the real meaning of the forcible—forcible—expulsion of the Soviet Jew to the land of Palestine. It means the occupation of Palestinian land—the location of Palestinian rights and the source of livelihood for the Palestinian man. It also means the evacuation of the Palestinian homeland from its Arab people and the creation of certain facts, which will not only obstruct the practical possibility to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of international legitimacy and the Arab peace program, but will also create the demographic and practical conditions for Israeli expansion into the neighboring Arab territories.

In this context, the Palestinian mujahidin stand today by the side of their Lebanese mujahidin in southern Lebanon against Israeli air raids and the land and sea shelling of Lebanese cities and villages and Palestinian camps. By so doing, they are defending the Arabism of southern Lebanon and the land of southern Lebanon, which the waves of Jewish emigration have reached through settlers. There are two settlements in the south. The settlements of immigrant Jews are not only establsihed on occupied Palestinian territories, but also on occupied Arab Syrian and Lebanese lands. As for the Syrian lands, 14 families settled in the Golan last week in an official celebration. Fraternal Jordan and its security and stability are also targeted by this emigration. This is demonstrated by daily statements and threats by Israeli officials, to warn whoever needs to be warned among us, that the emigration of Soviet Jews poses a threat to the entire pan-Arab security. Does this not prompt us immediately—as leaders of the Arab nation—to make a decision to form a council devoted to pan-Arab security's affairs and to the dangers which threaten pan-Arab security, be they manifested in emigration, armaments, sharing of waters, or theft of waters. This council should meet within a period not to exceed two months from now. Here, we wonder: What about the international resolutions that the United States endorsed? What about the Palestinians' right to repatriation stated in the UN resolutions? Does the law of return passed by the Israeli Knesset cancel the right of return which was recognized by international legitimacy? Is Israeli law binding on the United States more than international legitimacy? The United States' main concern has become the use of the veto in order to hinder international legitimacy in defense of Israel, its crimes, massacres, and occupation. Even our friends in America—we all have friends in America—are telling us to put more pressure on them. It is time for the Arab nation to determine its economic and political relationships with other countries according to the positions of these countries regarding the Jewish emigration to Palestinian Arab land, which will lead to Israel's expansion in Arab lands. Therefore, we have to use all weapons, including sanctions, economic boycotts, and political and moral pressure on countries, institutions and companies which take part in the process of aggression on Arab land and right in this regard by transferring the Jews.

Our message to the world is a message of freedom and peace. The Palestinian peace project, which is an Arab peace project based on international legitimacy, has been met with broad approval by the international community. The PLO—in cooperation with the brother Arabs and friendly countries—has done all that it can to arrive at a just peace based on the realization of the right of the Palestinian Arab people to independence and the establishment of their independent Palestinian state on their national Palestinian soil, with Jerusalem as its capital.

We still insist on believing that the proper framework of the solution is the framework of the UN-sponsored international peace conference on the Middle East, to be attended by the parties in the region's conflict, including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the permanent members of the UN Security Council, because this framework is the only one that can apply the solution and offer the required international obligations and guarantees to all parties. But we have to use our weight to secure the conference. The Israeli Government is still rejecting any progress in the peace process. It has refused to respond to the international will and legitimacy, and it derives from the maneuvering U.S. position the encouragement to show more intransigence, commit more massacres against our people, and create material and demographic obstacles in the occupied territories through the U.S. Administration's unlimited backing to hamper all peaceful initiatives and obstruct prospects for a solution.

I will convey to you in a closed meeting what happened to me in Geneva. My brothers in the Egyptian delegation are witnesses, because the mediator between myself and them was their representative. I will convey to you in a secret session what happened to me in Geneva as a result of U.S. collusion and maneuvering. We urge the United States to get rid of prevarication, procrastination, and ambiguity shrouding its stand on the issue of peace in the Middle East. We urge it to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and national independence through clear approval of convening an international peace conference, instead of trying to monopolize the state of no-solution and clutter the international situation with vague ideas on procedural arrangements that will only encourage Israel's procrastination and evasion and its attempts to prolong the duration of the occupation.

The colluding U.S. position that protects Israel conflicts with the U.S. international responsibilities and with the UN resolutions. It is high time that the unified Arab position, through factors of its power and ability, exercise pressure in order to convince the U.S. Administration of the extent of the negative, destructive, and explosive effects on future Arab-U.S. relations of the continuation of the Israeli occupation and the denial of the Palestinian people's rights.

The PLO has approved some measures and arrangements that will precede the international conference in order to overcome some obstacles, as these measures will pave the way for convening the international conference. But Israel's rejection of any proposals, even if they are worked out by the United States, was aimed at a further U.S. retreat from its positions. This has resulted in the current stalemate of the settlement process and provided the Israeli occupation with more time to commit more massacres and crimes against our people and our sanctities.

The suffering of our people under Israeli occupation exceeds man's capacity for patience. O brothers, tell me if there is a nation that staged a 30-month strike, revolution, and intifadah—30 months. Those who had some bread ran out of it, and those who had some money ran out of it. We also suffered from the economic blow sustained by Jordan, as mentioned by His Majesty King Husayn.

The sacrifice, which is being offered by our people every hour in facing the occupation's crimes, is greater than the political move and the international efforts to put an end to the suffering of the Palestinian people. We believe it is high time to persistently call for placing the occupied Palestinian territory under temporary international supervision to secure international protection for the Palestinian citizens who are exposed to the massacres of the Israeli Army and the hordes of settlers who are supported by the Israeli authorities.

Our people, who are standing on the bayonets of the occupation with such sacrifices, who are guarding Arabism and the identity of the land and its sanctity, and who are standing on the frontline to defend Arabs' land against the Zionist onslaught, deserve all forms of freedom and independence, and also deserve the utmost support from their Arab nation to be able to step up and continue their blessed intifadah. O God, be my witness that I have delivered the message. Occupation will be repulsed and the banner of Arabism, freedom, and peace will be raised over God's land, the land of sanctity, of Jerusalem, and of peace and the land of the cradle of Jesus. Yes, my brothers. It is a revolution until victory. It is an intifadah until Jerusalem is liberated, with God's help. It is liberation from Baghdad to Jerusalem and from al-Faw to Gaza, God willing. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The prophet and the believers who were with him asked: When is God's victory? God's victory is imminent. God's victory is imminent. God told the prophet that he would enter the holy mosque. Truly God loves those who fight in His cause in battle array, as if they were a solid cement structure. [Koranic verse] Thank you.

Republic of Yemen Considered ACC Member

JN2905120590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA)—Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] Secretary General Dr. Hilmi Nammar has said that the ACC leaders decided to consider the united Republic of Yemen as an ACC member.

At a press conference today, Dr. Nammar said that the ACC Supreme Council, which includes Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Jordan's Monarch His Majesty King Husayn, Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, and Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, held a meeting today on the sidelines of the extraordinary Arab summit chaired by ACC Supreme Council Chairman His Majesty King Husayn and made the aforementioned decision.

He added that during their meeting, the ACC leaders hailed the historic establishment of unity between the two parts of Arab Yemen, which embodies their aspirations for comprehensive unity as one of the exalted principles on which the ACC is based. He said that the ACC leaders set 22 October as the date for the next ACC summit, which will be held in Baghdad. He said that the ACC Ministerial Council will meet in Amman on 8 September.

The ACC secretary general said that a meeting among the secretaries general of the three Arab councils, the ACC, the Gulf Cooperation Council, and the Arab Maghreb Union, and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi is under consideration. He stated that no date has been set for this meeting.

Salih Thanks ACC

JN2905111890 Baghdad INA in English 1020 GMT 29 May 90

Baghdad, May 29, INA—Leaders of the Arab Cooperation Council President Saddam Husayn, King Husayn of Jordan, President Husni Mubarak of Egypt and President 'Ali Abdallah Salih of the Yemeni Repulic this morning held a meeting on the side lines of the Baghdad Arab summit.

The meeting was attended by Mr. 'Aii Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Presidential Council of the Yemeni Republic and members of the delegations accompanying the ACC leaders to the summit.

In an address to the meeting, President Husayn expressed pleasure for the unity of Yemen, the achievement that signalled unlimited abilities of the Arabs besides determination and fraternity.

He stated that current Arab experiences would not be temporary and would incessantly furnish us with resolute, strength, firmness and adherence to principles leading to a great hope that the Arab nation would assume the status it deserves, both historically and internationally.

Afterwards, president Salih delivered a speech expressing gratitude and appreciation to the ACC leaders for the completion of the membership of the Republic of Yemen to the ACC after the unity of the two Yemens.

He underscored that Yemen would shoulder responsibility at the domestic, ACC and Arab levels.

New Yemeni Leaders Confer With Arab Officials

Discuss Agenda With Fahd

JN2905134090 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the General People's Congress, together with brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, deputy chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, visited King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques in fraternal Saudi Arabia, at his place of residence in Baghdad last night.

During the meeting, brothers Salih and al-Bid discussed with the Saudi monarch aspects of relations between the two fraternal countries as well as topics listed on the agenda of the extraordinary Arab summit conference in Baghdad.

King Fahd expressed his congratulations to the brother president and our Yemeni people over the restoral of Yemeni unity and the establishment of the Republic of Yemen. The brother president, in turn, expressed his thanks to the custodian of the two holy mosques, stressing that Yemen's unity will reinforce confidence, understanding, good-neighborliness, and the close relations between our country and all the fraternal and friendly states in the region. He added that the unity will also promote security and stability in the region.

Mubarak Congratulations

EA2805100190 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the General People's Congress, together with Brother Ali Salim al-Bid, deputy chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee, met President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, at his place of residence in Baghdad.

President Mubarak expressed to the president and his deputy his warm congratulations and those of the fraternal Egyptian people to the brother president and our Yemeni people on the occasion of the establishment of the Yemeni Republic. He said that the republic represented a great cultural and pan-Arab achievement which would strengthen the progress of pan-Arab action to achieve universal Arab unity and it constituted a strong support for the Arab nation, particularly in view of the challenges facing it at the present time.

During the meeting there was a review of the developments in the Arab arena in the light of the extraordinary Arab summit which begins its business tomorrow in Baghdad. There was also a discussion of relations between the two fraternal countries in the framework of the Arab cooperation council.

The meeting was attended by Brother Mujahid Abu Shawarib, deputy prime minister for internal affairs and Ismat Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Affirms Swiss Hostages Still Alive

JN2605142690 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1403 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] It was learned from the Swiss Foreign Ministry in Berne today that Yasir 'Arafat has informed the Swiss Government that the two Swiss hostages held in Lebanon for the past seven months are still alive

'Arafat held talks with a Swiss Foreign Ministry representative yesterday and told him he was ready to use his influence to obtain the release of the two hostages, but without offering tangible guarantees. He also did not specify the identity of the kidnappers.

'Arafat Gives Speech to UN Security Council

JN2505165190 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1409 GMT 25 May 90

["Parts" of speech by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the UN Security Council session in Geneva on 25 May—live or recorded]

[Text] For 30 months, the Israeli occupation authorities have been waging genocide on all fronts and committing against our people crimes proscribed by international law, by revealed religious law, and by moral and humanitarian values. Our people are the targets of a war waged by starvation, by isolating population centers, and by destroying our national economy's infrastructure through continued land confiscation, theft of water, crop destruction, heavy taxation—and by attempts to collect those taxes by state terrorism and theft, as in Bayt Sahur and other localities. Further, our people are being subjected to a campaign of illiteracy that has resulted in the closure of all educational centers in our country for three years—from kindergartens to universities. Universities and most schools are still closed. All this is documented at the United Nations. At the same time, numerous philanthropic societies, trade unions, and professional associations have also been closed. Detention centers and prisons have been prepared to receive over 85,000 detainees, of whom scores have been liquidated. This is over and above expulsions and house arrests. At the same time, there has been an increase in the demolition of Palestinian homes. The occupation authorities have blown up and demolished over 2,000 houses during the intifadah, on flimsy pretexts. This has rendered homeless 10,000 persons including approximately 5,000 children. In addition, 80,000 donums of land and 180,000 fruit trees have been burned or destroyed. Further, collective punishment and excessive monetary fines have been imposed by Israeli occupation courts. All this is taking place in accordance with a predetermined, racist plan drawn up by the Israeli Government and the fanatic, armed settlers who are facing defenseless citizens in the occupied Palestinian and Arab land.

The Swedish Save the Children organization reports that 159 Palestinian children under 16 years of age were killed during the first two years of the intifadah. The toll has now mounted to 256 children who, over the past 30 months, have been killed by various prohibited terrorist means, including internationally banned tear-gas bombs. This was reported by two medical teams—one American and the other Belgian. They also reported that 50,000-63,000 Palestinian children have sustained injuries requiring medical attention. Children numbering 25,000, some as young as six, have been severely beaten and had their bones broken, and 675,000 Palestinian children in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have had to endure curfews with their attendant psychological, economic, and educational effects.

According to a report by the Israeli human rights group (Betselim), only one Israeli soldier has been jailed in cases involving the murder of Palestinian children. Just one soldier has been punished out of 102 cases investigated by the organization involving the death of Palestinian children. That only confirms the findings of the documented study of the Swedish group and testifies to the contempt in which our Palestinian children are held by Israeli soldiers.

Mr. President: The Palestinian people expect your esteemed council to assume its responsibilities and implement the resolutions it has passed, including those related to ending the Israeli occupation. The Palestinian people also expect you to take prompt action to protect the lives of our children, women, and their property, especially as the Israeli Government has refused to be bound by UN resolutions—UN Security Council [UNSC] Resolutions 464 and 605 that condemn and denounce Israel's practices and crimes against the Palestinian people and urge it to comply with the 1949 fourth Geneva Convention governing the protection of civilians in wartime.

The Israeli Government was not content with these crimes and this official, organized terrorism against our people. It added to them waves of people who were forced to emigrate from all over the world, and started to settle them in Palestinian territories, including holy Jerusalem and the occupied Arab territories, in order to replace Palestinian and Arab citizens—the owners of these occupied territories—against whom Israel is practicing official, organized terrorism and brutal suppression so they will leave their homeland and that of their forefathers. Add to this the expulsion of Palestinian families: More than 256 families have been expelled from their homeland so far, within this brief period of the intifadah. Settling new emigrants in buildings belonging to the Orthodox Church, and the assault on the Jerusalem patriarch and holy men are only part of the policy practiced by the Israeli Government. There are also previous and later attacks on Muslim and Christian holy places in Jerusalem, and the rest of the holy places, which Muslims and Christians all over the world consider an expression and symbol of holiness, love, peace, and tolerance.

Israel, which carries out its actions and suppressive, bloody practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, considers itself above the international responsibility that is honored by all countries of the world. In fact, Israel, which was established by a UN resolution, is the only state that ignores and challenges UN resolutions and does not abide by them.

Mr. President: You have heard about the assault on the Jerusalem patriarch; the heroes killed by Israel; the miscarriages caused by the use of internationally prohibited gases. These children have not yet turned nine. I will leave these documents with you, here in the Council, if you please.

Mr. President: Israel, which carries out its actions and suppressive, bloody practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, considers itself above the international responsibility that is honored by all countries of the world. ['Arafat repeats himself] In fact, Israel, which was established by a UN resolution, is the only state that ignores and challenges UN resolutions and does not abide by them. Israel, moreover, refuses to deal with this international organization whenever it asks it to implement any of these resolutions.

The international community now must have its say on this subject and your honorable Council—the UNSC—especially the permanent members, must live up to their responsibilities to preserve international peace and security, implement international resolutions, end the occupation, and protect the lives of the children, women, and people of Palestine under Israeli occupation, and help them attain a political, just, and permanent peaceful solution to the question of the Middle East conflict, through an international conference for peace in the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations.

At a time when the international community is moving toward a world of cooperation, democracy, and fruitful dialogue; at a time when the climate of international detente is being strengthened; at a time when the peoples of the world are preparing to receive the coming century while affirming the values of freedom, democracy, and human rights, Israel and its rulers are determined to pursue their racist, terrorist, and defunct policy. Our peace initiative, Mr. President, our policy, and our intifadah all constitute an example to be followed and they have inspired many peoples struggling for freedom and democracy. It has affirmed its harmony and coordination with the realities and general trend of our age.

Mr. President, as you very well know, I presented, in the name of the Palestinian people, to the UN General Assembly session here in this hospitable country on 13 December 1988, the Palestinian peace initiative, approved by the Palestine National Council in Algiers on 15 November 1988, and based on legitimacy and international resolutions. It was also adopted by the Arab summit in the Casablanca conference in May 1989 and was supported by the Nonaligned Movement summit, the African summit, and the conference of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers. It was also supported by many countries in West and East Europe, the Soviet Union, China, Japan, Scandinavia, and others.

This initiative even found an echo within Israeli society itself. It found echoes inside Israeli society that are increasing every day among Israeli peace-loving and democratic forces. In addition, it had a positive influence on Jewish communities in Europe and the United States itself. Proceeding from Palestinian rights and priorities, which are in harmony with international legitimacy, the PLO responded fully and in a responsible manner, and approached with flexibility and sincerity—as it continues to do—all international peace initiatives—those from the United Nations and other such proposals, including U.S. Secretary Baker's five points. We also responded to the Egyptian 10 points and the

U.S. suggestions conveyed by Swedish Foreign Minister Andersson on 16 September 1989. The PLO is still committed to its declared peace initiative and is ready to participate in the efforts to reach a political solution through which the Palestinian people can obtain their national legitimate rights, including the right to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of their independent state on their national Palestinian soil on the basis of international legality and UN resolutions.

It is regrettable that the Israeli Government responded to these initiatives only with rejection, intransigence, and the escalation of its iron-fist policy as a further escape from the peace process in the Middle East. Thus it defies the international resolutions on the Middle East conflict, particularly resolution 176/43 of 15 December 1988 calling for an international Middle East peace conference. In addition, the Israeli Government has overlooked and rejected the implementation of the two resolutions issued by your esteemed Council, resolutions 242 and 338.

As for the city of Jerusalem and the Israeli decision to annex it, to change its status, and to consider it the capital of the State of Israel—a decision that was followed, regrettably, by a similar resolution by the U.S. Congress on Jerusalem to encourage Israel, its occupation, its terrorism, and its crimes—Israel has continued to reject the implementation of all international resolutions on this holy city, including UNSC Resolution No. 252 of 21 May 68, UN General Assembly Resolution No. 2253 of 4 July 1967, which affirms the impermissibility of changing the status of the city of Jerusalem; UNSC Resolution No. 476 of 30 June 1980, which considers the measures taken by Israel to change the status of Jerusalem to be null and void; and UNSC Resolution No. 478 of 20 August 1980, which does not recognize Israeli laws on Jerusalem.

Israel has continued to implement the settlement policy by expropriating Palestinian lands, building Jewish settlements on them, and changing the demographic character of the occupied Palestinian territories in defiance of UNSC Resolution No. 452 of 20 July 1979, which calls upon the Israeli occupation authorities to halt their settlement operations in the occupied territories; UNSC Resolution No. 476 of 23 March 1979, which views the Israeli building of settlements as a serious obstacle to peace; and UNSC Resolution No. 465 of 1 March 1980, which calls upon Israel to dismantle the existing settlements and to halt the planning and building of any further settlements.

Mr. President, Israel has recently sought to exploit the circumstances that have allowed the doors of emigration to open to Jews in various countries in order to change the right of emigration into a political and settlement objective represented by the forcible emigration to Israel only. Here, immigrants or those forced to emigrate, to use a more accurate term, are not given the right to choose their final destination. This is a violation of the rights of Jewish emigrants.

We know that the rights of individuals and peoples end where the rights of others—including the Palestinian people—begin. Israel has spared no effort to close all doors to the Soviet emigrants, with the exception of Palestinian land. In this effort, Israel has been helped by decisions by some nations, especially the United States and Australia. These decisions amount to a grave and drastic distortion of the concept of the right to emigration enshrined in the Helsinki accords, as they promote a hostile political objective, namely, denying the Palestinian people the opportunity to live in their own homeland, or the Palestinian refugees the right to return, so they can put the new arrivals in the place of the rightful owners of the country.

It is necessary to say now, with all due responsibility, that evicting Jews to Palestinian territory poses a danger to the entire region, not only to Palestinian territory. I repeat that this poses a danger to the entire region, not just occupied Palestinian territory. This danger will spread to neighboring Arab countries. Indeed it has already spread to the Golan Heights and to southern Lebanon. Bitter experience in the Mideast has taught us that Israel's greed and expansionist appetite is unquenchable.

Mr. President, I consider it my duty here to point out, with all regret, the unlimited U.S. support for Israel at every level. This support encourages it to continue its occupation, escalate its terrorist and bestial practices against the Palestinian people, defy international resolutions, and obstruct all peace initiatives in the Middle East region, including the U.S. proposals themselves—not just the other peace initiatives, but the U.S. proposals themselves. The United States, which raises the slogan of human rights, has completely ignored the rights of the Palestinian people and individual. The United States has disregarded the human and moral dimensions of the concept of human rights, thus encouraging Israel to go to extremes in its savagery against Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territory and other occupied Arab territory. Lebanese villages and Palestinian camps in Lebanon are targets of Israeli Air Force raids and destructive bombing. And Israeli forces are occupying southern Lebanon.

Mr. President, in view of the dangers looming over the Middle East as a result of the continuing occupation by Israel of Arab and Palestinian land, its escalation of state terror, its genocide against our people, its aggressive and expansionist threats against several Arab countries—especially Iraq, Lebanon, and Jordan—and as a result of Israel's continuing preparation for aggression and war, it is high time your esteemed Council shouldered the responsibility of enforcing UN resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is high time your esteemed Council, before it is too late, assumed the responsibility of enforcing the UN resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

By its practices, threats, and war preparations, Israel is leading the region into a catastrophe of unprecedented danger, especially because the Middle East is a region in which conventional, nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons are stockpiled. This means a catastrophe that will transcend the borders of the Middle East to threaten world peace and security.

Mr. President, the true dimensions of the dangers threatening the future of peace in the region have begun to appear day after day, and its results have begun to appear in mass killing, the continued escalation, and the tension that is leading the region to the brink of war, and in Israel's insistence on continuing to occupy the Palestinian territories, which only few days ago Shamir officially announced as being inherited and liberated territories. In light of this, Mr. President, the PLO, reiterating its strategic and firm commitment to peace, proposes to your esteemed Council the following practical steps, which would turn the consensus of the international community into reality, put its resolutions into practice, and restore confidence and hope to your esteemed Council's role and effectiveness in achieving world peace, security, and justice. But before this, please allow me to show you this document. This document is a "map of Greater Israel," which is inscribed on this Israeli coin, the 10 agora piece. This document was published in GEO magazine in the United States on 19 February 1989, last year, only last year. This "Greater Israel," which is inscribed on this coin, includes all of Palestine, all of Lebanon, all of Jordan, half of Syria, two thirds of Iraq, one third of Saudi Arabia as far as holy Medina, and half of Sinai. I will leave you this document, which includes this blue [as heard] map of Israel.

We would like to present to your esteemed Council the following practical steps, which would turn the consensus of the international community into reality, put its resolutions into practice, and restore confidence and hope to your esteemed Council's role and effectiveness in achieving world peace, security, and justice:

1. The UN secretary general should appoint a special and permanent envoy to the peace process to hold the necessary contacts to achieve a just and lasting peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict—or he himself could carry out this task.

2. Your esteemed Council should resolve to secure international protection for the Palestinian people, their souls, property, and sanctities in the occupied territories under the UN flag and through international emergency forces. The international observers force, currently in Jerusalem, should be deployed along with these forces in order to end the Israeli occupation of our occupied Palestinian territory completely.

3. Your esteemed Council should issue a clear resolution, and supervise and guarantee its implementation, to stop the settlement emigration to the occupied Palestinian territories, and to completely prevent the establishment, or expansion, of Israeli settlements, civilian or military, in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly in Arab Jerusalem, in implementation of UN resolutions.

4. Your esteemed Council should invite the representatives of the UN Security Council permanent member states to meet immediately to discuss a peaceful settlement and the peace process, and to prepare for an international conference for peace in the Middle East, in implementation of UN resolutions.

5. To begin the necessary arrangements to impose sanctions on Israel in accordance with the provisions of the seventh chapter of the UN Charter because of its crimes against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, its violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 on the treatment of civilians in wartime, its refusal to implement the related UN resolutions, particularly the resolutions issued by your esteemed Council, and its defiance and deliberate obstruction of the peace process in the Middle East.

The United Nation's experience in imposing sanctions on the South African regime bore fruit in Namibia. The heroic Namibian people obtained their independence through the New York agreement, which was implemented under UN auspices. It has also begun to bear fruit for the people of South Africa in the release of hero struggler Nelson Mandela and with the beginning of the process of building peace and achieving the rights of the people of South Africa without racial discrimination and apartheid. Within this context, we would like to express our profound appreciation for the effective role played by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar in this regard.

The duty of loyalty and adherence to the heritage of human civilization, and the concepts of good and justice that are consecrated by that heritage, require that your esteemed Council form an international committee from the Council's members to investigate all the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Israeli Government against the Palestinian people.

Mr. President, while reaffirming that our choice of the road of peace is a strategic and sincere choice, we also assert our right to continue resistance and self-defense until the end of Israeli occupation. This is a sacred right guaranteed to us by the concepts of human rights, the UN Charter, international resolutions, and the will of the Palestinian people. The valiant popular intifadah will continue and escalate against the Israeli occupation of our country until we secure our right to freedom and national independence.

Our people, who are committed to the cause of peace and to the initiative I declared in their name two and a half years ago, are determined to win their political, national, and human rights—rights the rest of the peoples of the world already have. This is because we are a genuine part of the world and the community of man. We are proud to have taken part in the building of world civilization. It was in our land that the three heavenly religions flourished and coexisted.

Mr. President, it is time that this people got some relief. We are neither demanding the impossible nor asking for the moon. We demand that our people be allowed to live peacefully, freely, and independently. It is time that our children lived as children as other world peoples are living—in peace and security, and without fear, destruction, and death. Moreover, it is time that the shedding of our people's blood stopped. It is also time that the flag of our people flew over our liberated lands. It is time our freedom was achieved and that the curtain falls once and for all on this, the last military and racist occupation and settlement of this holy land, the land of Palestine, the holiest spot on our planet. Thanks, Mr. President; thanks members; thanks brothers. [applause]

'Arafat Gives News Conference in Geneva

JN2605122290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Geneva, 26 May (INA)—Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat has described the upcoming Arab summit in Baghdad as "a historic summit which will be a turning point in the Arab nation's history."

Speaking at a crowded news conference today at the Palais de Nations in Geneva, attended by more than 300 reporters, 'Arafat said: "The Baghdad summit will discuss practical measures to confront the challenges which the Arab nation is facing at all levels."

'Arafat disclosed that consultations have been under way since yesterday on the sidelines of the United Nations Security Council [UNSC] meeting in Geneva on the urgent dispatch of a committee, made up of three UNSC members, to the occupied Arab territory to file a report on the security situation there before a resolution is passed on the subject.

Asked his opinion of this measure, 'Arafat said: "It is not a bad step and we accepted it, but Israel is still hesitating to accept it, so that its crimes will not be revealed to the world."

'Arafat said that the Palestinian people's patience is running out and that "our people's suffering is humanly unbearable. Therefore, I will consult with my brothers, the Arab leaders, in Baghdad, where the Arab summit is going to meet to discuss all of these issues."

Commenting on the Palestinian president's remark that the Palestinian people's patience is running out, a correspondent of the British newspaper THE INDEPENDENT asked 'Arafat if this means a threat to wage war. To this, 'Arafat replied: "I am not threatening to wage war, but I am drawing attention to the preparations the Israelis are making for the coming war."

'Arafat said: "Israel's chief of staff Dan Shomron said a few days ago that Lebanon must be reoccupied. Sharon, who is the number two man in the ruling party and a killer of Palestinian children, says Jordan must be occupied in order to evacuate the Palestinians to it. Shamir is openly threatening Iraq and stating to French television that the West Bank is not an occupied territory, but an inheritance that has been liberated."

Regarding Jewish emigration to the occupied Arab territories, Yasir 'Arafat urged the signatories to the Helsinki Treaty to respect the provisions of the treaty, which stipulates the right of emigrants to choose the country they want to go to, without being pressured or forced to go to particular countries. He said that what is happening now is a transfer from and to Palestine, and not free emigration from one country to another.

He also said that the proof that this is a transfer and not free emigration is that the United States, which has been demanding that Jews be allowed to emigrate for years, has closed its doors to these Jews to force them to go to the occupied Arab territories.

'Arafat asked: Why did large numbers of Jews gather and demonstrate in front of the U.S. Embassy in Vienna? He said those Jews wanted to go to the United States, which has denied them entry visas in order to force them to go to the occupied Arab territories.

'Arafat repeated that this was not emigration but an organized measure to transfer Jews to Palestinians' homes, to Palestinian Christians' monasteries, to Palestinian Muslims' mosques, and to Palestinians' lands. 'Arafat also asked: Has this anything to do with human rights, and is this stipulated by the Helsinki Treaty?

Regarding the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue and whether it had achieved any progress since it began one and a half years ago, 'Arafat said: "Although U.S. President George Bush used the expression an end to the Israeli occupation in one of his statements, and although Baker also said in a statement that Israel must forget its dream of Greater Israel, we regret that the dialogue is still taking place at the ambassadorial level. He said "If the U.S. President advocates positive positions, he should implement them practically on the ground."

On the reason why the dialogue is still on this level, he said: "The U.S. Administration does not want to raise the dialogue's level." The Palestinian president added: "Is the United States independent or is it acting on Israeli orders?" He continued: "I will repeat this question whether the United States accepts it or not."

The Palestinian president said the United States used its veto six times last year against resolutions on the Palestine question in order to protect Israeli crimes and occupation. He said that as a result of direct U.S. aid of $4 billion and indirect aid of $6 billion to the Zionist entity, every individual in Israel takes $30,000 a year from the American taxpayer. He wondered if every individual in the United States took $30,000 a year from his government, or if American taxpayers knew that Palestinian children that are being killed every day are being killed with this aid to Israel.

'Arafat presented accurate figures and details of the brutal Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people in the course of the intifadah, which started 30 months ago. He said that the Palestinian people sacrificed 1,200 martyrs and 80,000 wounded, that 85,000 Palestinians were either detained or imprisoned, that 80,000 dunums of agricultural land were destroyed, that hundreds of trees were uprooted, and that schools and universities have been closed for three years.

He said that Belgian and U.S. missions had taken samples of the bombs used by Zionist soldiers against the children of the Palestinian intifadah and tested them in the laboratory. The tests showed that the bombs were not tear-gas bombs, as the Zionist entity claims, but internationally banned chemical bombs.

'Arafat added that a report by the Swedish "Save the Children Fund" said that 159 Palestinian children under 16 years of age had been killed during the first two years of the intifadah with these gases. He said this figure equals 80,000 Americans children in proportion to the U.S. population. He added that, if 256 Palestinian children were killed with these gases, this figure would be 140,000 American children in proportion to the U.S. population.

'Arafat stressed the Palestinian people's determination to continue the intifadah to achieve a just and lasting peace. He added: We will insist, at the same time, on international protection of the Palestinian people until peace is achieved.

Assessing the results of the peripheral consultations by the Security Council members, 'Arafat said: "The great step forward is that the issue of the occupied Arab territories became the responsibility of the Security Council as of yesterday." He said: "This issue has become the responsibility of the Security Council and this is what I came to Geneva to achieve."

'Arafat also showed reporters the map of the so-called "Greater Israel," which includes Lebanon, Jordan, two thirds of Iraq, half of Syria, one third of Saudi Arabia, and half of Sinai. He also displayed a 10-agora coin bearing this map, and pictures of Palestinian children killed by the Zionist occupation authorities and of abortions that were the result of using internationally-banned gases. He also displayed other pictures of children under nine being beaten by occupation soldiers.

In addition, 'Arafat showed the news conference several lists, including a list of 1,200 Palestinian martyrs killed during the intifadah and the 80,000 wounded, and he told the reporters that the lists are kept at the Palestinian mission's Geneva headquarters.

Egypt

Police Vehicle Attacked; Four Officers Injured

NC2805052190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2218 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Qina, 27 May (MENA)—Ten masked men attacked a police minibus carrying a group of central security officers in Qina today. Incendiary bombs and stones were used in the attack, in which four officers were injured—a major and three lieutenants—and a vehicle was damaged. The attack took place in an area behind 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Qinnawi mosque.

According to preliminary investigations by the security organs, the culprits, who belong to extremist groups, committed the act to avenge the death of two of their companions in recent clashes with the police.

Interior Minister 'Abd-al-Halim Musa, who was notified of the attack, ordered the formation of a team under the assistant interior minister for the southern part of Upper Egypt and the security director of Qina to track down the culprits.

Meanwhile, security men are making efforts to bring about the arrest of the culprits. The necessary security measures have been taken at the police corps buildings.

13 Nigerians Arrested for Heroin Smuggling

NC2705182890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (MENA)—The Cairo Airport authorities, in cooperation with the Anti-Drug Department, seized 20 kg of heroin today. Thirteen Nigerian passengers, including eight women, were trying to smuggle the heroin from Bankgok through Cairo Airport to Lagos, and from there to Europe and the United States. The heroin seized has an estimated value of 20 million pounds.

Acting on a tip about an attempt by Nigerian passengers from Bangkok to smuggle heroin through Cairo Airport, Major General Muhammad Hafiz Mansur, director of the airport security department, issued instructions to undercover agents and anti-drug officers to carry out surveillance of a large number of passengers. An Egyptian plane from Bangkok duly arrived with the Nigerian passengers on board. While the latter were preparing to board a plane for Lagos, Egypt Air delayed the plane's takeoff until the officers were able to apprehend the passengers. The Nigerian passengers confessed they were hiding a quantity of heroin in tubes and capsules inside their bodies. They were taken to the Heliopolis Hospital. X-ray tests revealed the eight women and five men were each carrying 1.5 kg of heroin inside their bodies.

The airport authorities are awaiting X-ray results for five other women, including two pregnant women, who will undergo ultrasound tests to ensure the safety of the fetuses.

Kuwait

Daily 'Fiercely Attacked' President Bush, Policy

LD2605075790 Kuwait KUNA in English 0705 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Kuwait, May 26 (KUNA)—A prominent Kuwaiti daily Saturday fiercely attacked U.S. President George Bush, contending that Bush is not better than his predecessors Harry Truman and Richard Nixon.

"The Arabs have thought that Harry Truman was the worst American President until (Lyndon) Johnson came with his psychological diseases and political ignorance ... and we thought that Richard Nixon, for his collaboration against the Arabs in the October war of 1973, was the most hostile in the seventies until this George Bush came," Arabic-language AL-ANBA' editorialized.

"We believe that no American President could be fair and close to fairness, because the logic of power and rape forms the basis of the American mind," the paper said. It added that "it is a sarcastic matter to say that the era of George Bush seems to more understanding of Arab issues or that the miracle of a wedge between the White House and its masters in Tel Aviv was in the offing.

The paper said that the American policy in the Middle East "does not depend on spontaneous circumstances but rather is drawn within a long-term strategic plan whose details are not changed unless an accounted matter takes place or a mistake is discovered."

The paper's editorial was sparked by Bush's latest message to the Arab leaders who are getting prepared for an extraordinary summit to be held in Baghdad on Monday. Bush's message demanded the Arab leaders to recognize Israel and make peace with the Tel Aviv government to ensure stability and tranquility in the region.

"This is the first time a message for an American President to Arab leaders moves from an explicit advice or an implicit warning to a situation ordering a detestable action and avoiding righteousness," AL-ANBA' newspaper stressed. "The U.S., this time, has abandoned its policy of advice and moved to rude animosity in a language which has been empty of the morals of speech," the paper noted.

It concluded that the American president was clearly telling the Arab leaders what to do, thinking that they would listen and obey. "It's about time that the Arab summit says that the Arab countries are not banana states."

PDRY

Salih, Al-'Attas Address Council of Ministers

EA2505223390 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and members of the council took the constitutional oath in the Republican Palace this morning before brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdullah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the General People's Congress. The oath-taking ceremony was attended by brother members of the Presidential Council.

The constitutional oath was also taken before the brother chairman of the Presidential Council by Brigadier 'Abdallah Husayn al-Bashiri, chief of General Staff; and Sa'id Salih Salim, governor of Aden Governorate. The oath-taking ceremony was attended by brother members of the Presidential Council and Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Brother Lt. Gen. 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, chaired the first meeting of the Government of the Republic of Yemen. The brother chairman spoke and congratulated, in his name and in those of the members of the Presidential Council, the brother prime minister and the ministers on the confidence entrusted in them, wishing them success in their expected tasks. He pointed out tasks being assumed by the new government were large ones, confirming he and the members of the Presidential Council would stand alongside the government so it can accomplish its tasks and perform its national duties. He said the responsibility of the Council of Ministers was a joint responsibility before the Presidential Council and before the Chamber of Deputies [majlis al-nuwwab], pointing out that our people are looking forward to what the government will achieve, particularly in the economic sphere, providing a living for the citizens, and seeing to their requirements and needs.

The brother chairman stressed the importance of the government's looking with interest in development plans and evaluating the conditions of areas and governorates, paticularly the remote ones which service projects have not yet reached. He said: The homeland is before you and you are responsible for it from the extreme east to the extreme west, and from the extreme north to the extreme south. He said: You must provide without any discrimination for the needs of the remote areas, namely, in communications, roads, water projects, education, and other things.

Every minister must assume his responsibilities and draw up plans and programs which will guarantee him success in carrying out his work.

The brother chairman of the Presidential Council stressed the importance of the government undertaking the building of an enlightened nationalist generation and giving it a valuable nationalist upbringing, an enlightened generation which was responsible and preserved its beliefs, its traditions, and the heritage of its civilization, and the importance for the government to strive to build up the military establishment and develop it on modern scientific bases, since it was a symbol of national unity.

He also emphasized the importance of adhering to a foreign policy based on nonalignment, positive cooperation with others, non- interference in internal affairs, and the achievement of the common interests of our people and brotherly and friendly peoples. He stressed the importance for all in the Council of Ministers to work in a spirit of unity and to strive to accomplish the great national tasks in a spirit of solidarity. He said the tasks were great and difficult, but with truth, sincerity, and earnestness, the matter would be easy and we will achieve all that our people aspire to. Therefore, we must all be soldiers recruited for the sake of the people.

He pointed out that this leadership, which had borne the responsibility of the struggle to achieve the great historic victory, which was represented by unity, until the flag of the Republic of Yemen had been raised above all the Yemeni regions, was today required to continue the achievement in order to embody the aspirations of our people for progress.

The brother chairman of the Presidential Council stressed in his speech the importance of preserving national unity and deepening it and of depriving those who cast doubts and all those infiltrating denominational and racist elements of the opportunity of penetrating the ranks, paying attention to the development of agriculture and industry, dealing with economic conditions, and paying attention to technical and specialized institutes.

He explained our people are living through a new era, and a new stage demands the solidarity of all sincere efforts in order to lead the Yemeni Republic to the aspired horizon—a democratic state based on justice, equality, and the supremacy of the law. The brother chairman declared the legal organs will burn all the files they have and they will close all files. The brother chairman said: We must act with a level of responsibility and comply with the needs of the citizens and open our hearts to them. We must not deal with them from high ivory towers; rather we must go down to the masses and respect their traditions and customs. We must strive to apply the principle of supremacy of the law, respect for laws and regulations, strive to apply them, and strive to solve people's problems.

The brother chairman added: All the people will be with you when you make the new beginning. They will give you more of their backing and support. He pointed out the government must from now on strive to prepare its political program to present it to the Chamber of Deputies within 25 days in light of the commitment to the Constitution and the state's general sovereignty.

He confirmed that he and members of the Presidential Council will back, help, and support the government to implement its tasks and translate its programs and plans in a manner that guarantees to the people and the homeland more progress, advancement and prosperity.

After that, brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Council of Ministers, made a speech, at the beginning of which he expressed profuse thanks in his name and those of his colleagues, members of the council, for the confidence placed in them by the Presidential Council.

He said: I am proud of this confidence, and I hope we shall meet your good expectations in discharging the tasks and duties assigned to us. He explained that this confidence in the government represents the first government of the unified Yemen—the Yemeni Republic—after it had been achieved through the help of God, the sublime, and the will of our people, who had been looking forward to it with great hope for the development, progress, and prosperity of Yemen to be accomplished under it.

Addressing the brother chairman of the Republican Council and members of the council, he said: We trust this confidence of yours in the council will continue through continued support and directives to the Council of Ministers to assist and to enable it to tackle the great tasks that await it.

He added: Your speech expressed the concerns and aspirations of our people. They will be a guide to the government in preparing its program, which it will present to the Chamber of Deputies, which will grant this government the confidence through which the government will be able to pursue its work and implement its program. He confirmed that the government will apply itself to accomplishing this first task, in the light of which the government will draw up its subsequent programs in various spheres.

UN Representative Addresses Security Council

JN2605220090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Geneva, 26 May (INA)—Iraq has urged the UN Security Council to protect the Palestinian people from the tyranny of the occupation authorities and demanded that sanctions be imposed on the Zionist entity according to the provisions of the UN Charter and as part of the UN responsibility for preserving world peace and security. Iraq's permanent UN representative, Barazan al-Takriti, said in his speech at the Security Council today that a just and comprehensive peace in the region cannot be achieved before putting an end to the Zionist occupation and guaranteeing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, including the right to establish their own independent state on their national soil. Barazan al-Takriti stressed Iraq's unlimited support for Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat's demands at the Security Council in which he called for an absolute and comprehensive condemnation of the hostile Zionist policy that is obstructing all international efforts to find a just and honorable solution to the Palestine question and to achieve a lasting peace in the region.

Iraq's permanent representative reviewed the series of crimes committed by the Zionist occupation forces against the Palestinian people, their negative positions and defiance of international law, their indifference to international and humanitarian charters and norms, and their recent crime on 20 May in which 20 Palestinians were martyred and hundreds wounded. He said the recent massacre cannot be viewed as an individual action but as part of the general atmosphere of aggression and prejudice created by the Zionist entity and that it falls under the heading of state terrorism against the Palestinian people in Palestinian territories. Iraq's permanent representative also noted that the policy of state terrorism does not only represent a flagrant aggression against the Palestinian people's human rights and an open violation of international law and the fourth Geneva agreement, but also constitutes a serious threat to security and peace in the region and the world at large. He listed examples of Zionist indifference to international charters and norms and UN and Security Council resolutions.

Barazan al-Takriti quoted Zionist entity Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir as saying earlier today: "It is better for the Security Council not to take any decision to be implemented by Israel, because, if any such decision is taken, Israel will not implement or recognize it." He also quoted the Zionist prime minister as saying: "Israel has not recognized or implemented previous UN and Security Council resolutions." Barazan al-Takriti also told the Security Council's presidency: "This is how the Israeli leaders treat the international community and the world. This behavior was fully reflected by its representative when he delivered his speech before the Security Council yesterday. His style lacked the minimum degree of courtesy as he addressed the president and members of the Security Council."

He also stated: "Israel would not have gone ahead with its hostile policy and its defiance of the will of the international community, with its rejection of the international resolutions, with its indifference to the principles of human rights, and with its attempts to hamper the peace process in the region, were it not for the unlimited U.S. support, which contradicts the U.S. Administration's declared position on defense of human rights." He added: "I believe the United States is an honest friend of Israel because it does not try to make Israel understand the need to abandon violence and killing at a time when the United States itself knows more than others that this policy cannot destroy a nation. On the contrary, persecution will generate more nationalism and resistance against injustice; the experience of persecuted nations proves this well."

He then refuted the lies of the Zionist deputy foreign minister when he addressed the Security Council on Iraq and claimed that it threatened Israel. Barazan al-Takriti said that Iraq did not threaten anyone, but warned that it would retaliate for any aggression against it. He said such retaliation is a legitimate right recognized by international law and the UN Charter.

Iraq's permanent representative concluded his speech by stressing that a just and lasting peace in the Arab region will not be achieved under the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories and under the repressive action and terrorism of the Israeli occupation authorities and Zionist organizations. He added that this can be achieved only through complete obliteration of the occupation.

Launching of Satellite 'Response' to Jericho-2

JN2305200090 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 22 May 90 pp 1, 25

[By Shakir al-Jawhari]

[Excerpt] Iraq will announce a great scientific achievement on 28 May, the day the urgent emergency Arab summit opens in Baghdad. This was divulged to AL-SIYASAH by well-informed Arab sources that are well-acquainted with how President Saddam Husayn thinks and with the way Iraq's momentous decisions and great achievements are formulated. According to these sources, it is possible that the achievement will be the launching and placing of an artificial satellite into earth orbit. The satellite will carry out a number of scientific tasks and will constitute a practical response to Israel's launch of the satellite, Jericho-2. This announcement will come in the wake of the current psychological, media, and political campaign against Iraq by Israel, the United States, Britain, and other Western allies. [passage omitted]

Explosion Injures 12 in Jerusalem Jewish Quarter

Arrests Made; Bomb in Rishon

TA2805105090 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 28 May 90

[Excerpt] Here is an update of the situation following the explosion in the Mahane Yehuda Market in Jerusalem: As far as is known, a bomb planted under a stand in the Mahane Yehuda Market, on 'Etz Hahayim Street, exploded at around 1220. Twelve people, both market workers and shoppers, were wounded. One of them is in serious condition, while the others sustained moderate to light wounds. Massive numbers of Jerusalem District policemen are now searching the market and its environs, the vicinity of the central bus station, areas along the city's former east-west divide, and Arab gathering points under police supervision.

The Jerusalem District police commander said that attempts had been made to attack Arabs in the market immediately after the explosion, but the police thwarted them. The police arrested dozens of suspects and are currently continuing their searches and investigation. [passage omitted]

[An update by police affairs correspondent 'Ido Baum at 1030 GMT adds: "A suspicious homemade object, apparently an explosive charge, was found in Rishon Leziyyon's central bus station. Many police bomb disposal experts arrived on the scene and proceeded to defuse the charge. A large police presence has cordoned off the area and is now searching for Arab suspects."]

Bombing Claimed for Jihad Group

NC2805153890 Paris AFP in English 1529 GMT 28 May 90

[Excerpts] Jerusalem, May 28 (AFP)—A bomb exploded Monday in a crowded vegetable market in the Jewish quarter of central Jerusalem wounding 10 people, and triggering scuffles between Jewish and Arab workers, police and correspondents said.

An anonymous telephone caller to AFP claimed the attack for Islamic Jihad in Palestine, a Sunni [as received] Muslim fundamentalist group, and said it was to avenge the murder on May 20 of seven Palestinian labourers by an Israeli gunman near Tel Aviv. "Israel understands only the language of iron and fire," he said.

Police detained more than 40 Palestinians after the blast at Mahane Yehuda market. Several Arabs were roughed up by Jewish right-wing militants before being evacuated by police, who said they also detained two militants. The victims were all taken to hospital, where three were reported to be in serious condition. [passage omitted]

The anonymous caller here said Islamic Jihad in Palestine would reject any resolutions issued at the Arab summit this week in Baghdad "that do not stand for (Islamic) holy war against Israel." The fundamentalist group also claimed responsibility for the murder in Arab east Jerusalem on May 21 of an Israeli man, who was stabbed to death. The attack was "the beginning of great revenge" for Rishon Leziyyon, it said.

Wounded Man Dies

TA2805161690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] Seventy-two-year-old Shim'on Kohen, wounded in the explosion in the Mahane Yehuda Market in Jerusalem, died half an hour ago in the operating theater at Sha'are Tzedeq Hospital. Shrapnel had punctured his liver and blood vessels. Seven other people wounded in the incident remain hospitalized in Jerusalem; most of them sustained limb injuries.

Further Reaction to UN Proposal on Observers

Shamir: 'Will Not Bring Peace'

LD2505150690 Paris Antenne-2 Television in French 1100 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] The event in Geneva this afternoon is Yasir 'Arafat's appearance before the United Nations Security Council. Most of the public figures, including Perez de Cuellar, the chairman, arrived this morning. The PLO chairman will speak within the framework of an international situation which appears to be completely favorable to him and to the Palestinians. Even the Americans do not rule out the possibility of discussing the presence of UN observers in the occupied territories. This possibility is considered to be totally unacceptable by the Israeli prime minister. Yitzhaq Shamir repeated this just now, speaking to Charles Enderlin:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] Not at all. I believe it will be dangerous to send such a force to the territories of Gaza, Samaria, and Judeau. It will not bring peace, it will increase tension. There will always be tension. You know it is a rule—and we have experience of these peace forces—it is a rule that such a force can serve the cause of peace when the two parties, the two sides, wish to have this force between them. So, I do not believe this will achieve anything, and furthermore it will not happen.

[Enderlin] What about the visit by Bernard Kouchner [French secretary of state for humanitarian action] to the West Bank and Gaza?

[Shamir] Yes, it is not very desirable at this time, but since they are here we will talk with them, we will see what they want.

[Enderlin] You are going to receive them?

[Shamir] Yes. [end recording]

Attention Given 'Arafat Deplored

TA2505172890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] The prime minister's adviser Avi Pazner has said, in reaction to Yasir 'Arafat's address at the Security Council meeting, that the fact the PLO leader has again been allowed an international stage to voice slander and lies against Israel is to be deplored. Mr. Pazner told our political correspondent Arye Golan that 'Arafat has again proved he is fighting against the very existence of the State of Israel and that he will resort to any means to achieve his goal. The prime minister's adviser stressed Israel will reject 'Arafat's call to send UN forces to the territories.

Ministry Rejects Observer, Envoy

TA2605190090 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Foreign Ministry Spokesman Yosef 'Amihud, in Geneva at present, told our special correspondent in Geneva Yig'al Rom that Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu had advised the UN secretary general unequivocally that Israel would not accept any observer or envoy in connection with the issue debated at the Security Council—either on behalf of the Security Council or on behalf of the UN secretary general.

Netanyahu on Survey Delegation

TA2505192790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 May 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has said the dispatch of UN personnel to the territories will impair Israel's sovereignty. Addressing the Security Council in Geneva, Deputy Minister Netanyahu said the council's debate will exacerbate the violence in the territories and serve to aid the general warfare against the immigration of Jews to Israel.

Gid'on Kouts, our special correspondent in Geneva, reports tonight that Binyamin Netanyahu will meet with Thomas Pickering, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Earlier, a U.S. official in Geneva said the United States is now proposing to send a survey delegation, rather than observers, to Israel and the territories. Referring to this report, Deputy Minister Netanyahu said that Israel has received no proposal to send a survey delegation, and that when one is submitted, we will discuss it.

Netanyahu: U.S. Stand 'Reasonable'

TA2605081690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu conferred in Geneva with Thomas Pickering, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, who said Washington continues to oppose sending UN observers to the territories for a permanent stay. The question of sending a survey delegation, however, remains open, said Pickering.

Netanyahu told our correspondent Yig'al Rom later that Washington's position seems clear and reasonable to him.

Sources in the Israeli delegation have said the delegation would persist in its opposition to any delegation on behalf of the Security Council, but would not object to the arrival in the region of an emissary representing the UN secretary general, or to a visit by the UN secretary general himself.

Deputy Minister Netanyahu is currently in session with Secretary General Perez de Cuellar.

Netanyahu Rejects UN 'Jurisdiction'

TA2605172990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Israel's delegation to Geneva expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the session. Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said he was encouraged after meetings with U.S. representatives and with the secretary general. At a news conference, Netanyahu stressed that Israel does not accept Security Council jurisdiction on the question of an observer team dispatch to the territories.

'No Truth' to Acceptance of Envoy

TA2605091590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Here is a report that has just been filed by our political correspondent Arye Golan: The Foreign Minister's Office has clarified there is no truth in the report that a decision had been made according to which Israel would accept a mission by the UN secretary general or his emissary to Israel. The foreign minister's adviser said the Security Council was convoked to exploit a tragic event to slander Israel.

Arens Addresses Issue in Cabinet

TA2705112290 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 27 May 90

[By political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Text] The weekly Cabinet session, held in the Prime Minister's Office, ended a short while ago. Most of the session was devoted to the events that followed the Rishon Leziyyon massacre and the turmoil on the political scene. Foreign Minister Moshe Arens unequivocally stated again that Israel will not allow UN observers to enter. The foreign minister told the Cabinet that Israel will not allow a UN delegation to come here either by virtue of a Security Council resolution or on the Security Council's behalf; nor will a visit by any other UN delegation that is linked to the issues of security in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip be allowed. Moshe

Arens thus replied to proposals raised to send a personal envoy here on behalf of the UN secretary general.

Moshe Arens told the Cabinet that despite 'Arafat's desire to score an achievement before the Arab summit in Baghdad, at this stage the UN Security Council is not examining a resolution to send a team of observers to the territories. The foreign minister added: A media campaign also was held in Geneva. According to all the reports we received, we won this campaign as well.

As for the very stormy relations between the United States and Israel, we heard Minister Roni Milo at the end of the session:

[Begin Milo recording] I do not think so. It seems to me that people are looking for reasons to talk about crises with the United States. I do not believe we are in a crisis. This period in which a government is being formed is transitional. Naturally, no decisions are made in such a period. That is why there have been no decisions in this period. I do not believe there is reason to express concern about our relations with the United States. Relations have always been and will remain good, even if now and then there are disagreements which are legitimate in the framework of our relations with the United States. [end recording]

The chief of staff and the police commissioner briefed the Cabinet about last week's incidents in the territories and inside the State of Israel, and Minister Ehud Olmert reviewed events in the Israeli Arab sector. Olmert said that the riots are calming down. He noted, however, that one of the reasons for the Arab riots is the fact that the government had neglected the Arabs.

Minister Avner Sciaki attacked the media celebration, as he put it, around the murders in Rishon Leziyyon. Minister Moda'i joined him, but said the media can be forgiven because of the excellent television program on emigration from the USSR. In the session itself, Minister Moda'i criticized the censor for not halting the publication of the murders, which would have allowed the defense forces to get organized.

Shamir on U.S. Ties, Peace, New Government

TA2605083690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0705 GMT 26 May 90

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Ayre Golan; place, date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Golan] Mr. Prime Minister, Israel has already announced its opposition to the permanent deployment of UN observers in the territories. The question is whether Israel would be amenable to a brief tour by an emissary or a delegation on behalf of the UN secretary general to examine the situation in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza and return to New York with some recommendations.

[Shamir] It would be wrong for me to conduct negotiations with the United Nations through the radio. Our position is clear: We think that it is unnecessary and harmful to send observers here, in whatever framework.

[Golan] Even if they are sent here for a short period?

[Shamir] Yes.

[Golan] Would you be able to say that under certain circumstances we would, despite everything, allow a UN exploratory team to stay here briefly, if only to prevent relations with the United States from sinking even lower?

[Shamir] Generally speaking, observer forces or any body of observers or a peace corps can help only if they are sent to an area separating two countries, a contentious region, when the two countries approve its presence. For example, the Multinational Force and Observers currently stationed in the Sinai, in the area separating us from Egypt; or the international force called UNDOF [UN Disengagement Observation Force] deployed on the Golan Heights. In both cases, the forces were sent following the consent of both countries involved, on either side of the border. These forces are somehow beneficial. But when these rules do not exist, a force or a body of this type can only cause damage and create unnecessary tension. It does not and cannot serve the cause of peace.

[Golan] What will happen if the Americans reject your explanation and still support sending a delegation of some sort for a short time?

[Shamir] I hope reason will prevail.

[Golan] Mr. Prime Minister, the nagging feeling recently has been of an impending avalanche in our relations with President Bush's administration. The President said yesterday that the peace process cannot advance as long as there is no stable government capable of making decisions in Israel.

[Shamir] First of all, some of the expressions that have been used lately are highly exaggerated. Terms such as avalanche, collapse, and the like fail by far to reflect reality. While there are differences of opinion, what President Bush said yesterday regarding the absence of a stable government in Israel is, on the whole, true. We believe that once it is set up, the new government will pursue all negotiations and talks with the U.S. Administration on all the issues pertaining to regulating ties between us and our neighbors through cooperation with the United States.

[Golan] Nevertheless, we have heard various statements in Washington about aliyah and the territories; about Jerusalem—where the Americans contend settlements are being established, and this is the actual term they have applied to Jerusalem; and President Bush demanded last week that Israel's security forces show restraint and temperance. He also said he is very concerned and worried by the loss of life, particularly the deaths of children, in the territories. Would you not say that this indicates a foul atmosphere?

[Shamir] As I said, there are differences of opinion and different views of the situation. It is true that our position regarding Jerusalem is quite clear and known in Washington. As for the riots and the shows of violence that have occurred in Israel recently, the Israeli Government's stand is well known. Everyone knows how IDF [Israel Defense Forces] personnel conduct themselves, their behavior being characterized by maximum restraint.

[Golan] What about your personal relations with the U.S. President? Some time ago, President Bush was quoted in the press as saying that when you sat opposite him you promised no new settlements, whereas several days later that promise was broken. The president then complained and said: He takes me for a fool!

[Shamir] It is not a personal issue; it has nothing to do with personal ties. In general, I would prefer not to talk about it. I hope that after a government is formed, we will try to find ways to resolve the existing differences of opinion and pursue the relations of cooperation that have typified Israeli-U.S. ties for so many years.

[Golan] Would you say that there is no crisis of confidence between you and the U.S. President?

[Shamir] I would avoid using such expressions.

[Golan] Mr. Shamir, do you think there is a way to improve, or correct, ties with the United States without making substantial progress in the peace process? My question, then, is: How would you advance the peace process if you set up a narrow-based government relying on Ge'ula Kohen, Elyaqim Ha'etzni, Rehav'am Ze'evi, and Refa'el Eytan [rightist-movement Knesset members]?

[Shamir] Look, these are two distinct issues. First of all, the firm foundation of our relations with the United States is based on the existence of cooperation and friendly ties even in the absence of and despite differences of opinion which can emerge from time to time, mainly in connection with our relations with our neighbors.

As for the next government's ability to carry out political activity, this activity will be founded on basic guidelines which will be acceptable to and binding on all the participants in it.

[Golan] Mr. Shamir, do you still, despite all the problems, hope to set up a narrow-based government? Will you accept presenting a government enjoying the majority of only 61 Knesset members, or will you refrain from presenting one before you have a 65-member majority?

[Shamir] I will present a government based on a majority. The larger the majority, the better.

[Golan] Namely, even if it is only a majority of 61?

[Shamir] If there are only 61 for some time, so be it. Hopefully, though, with time that majority will increase.

[Golan] Do you believe you will be able to present a government as soon as next week?

[Shamir] I very much hope so.

[Golan] Why, in fact, did you disband the Likud's negotiating team?

[Shamir] That is not true. The media reports yesterday alleging that I had disbanded that team and effected an overhaul are all unfounded and totally wrong. I never disbanded that group, nor was it a permanent team. There are all sorts of missions, a variety of teams, and different ways of conversing—as is common practice in negotiations of this type.

[Golan] Since you mentioned press reports, I recall a large headline in one of the most widely read newspapers maintaining that Likud ministers claim that you are employing the same methods that you used when you were in the Mosad and that no one actually knows what you want. So, Mr. Shamir, what do you want?

[Shamir] I want to set up a government, and I do not believe anyone actually said this or even thinks as much. When I was in the Mosad, I employed methods appropriate for that institution; in the government I conduct myself the way a prime minister should.

[Golan] And you are not compartmentalizing things, and everyone is aware of your intentions and plans?

[Shamir] Sometimes there is compartmentalization, as warranted.

[Golan] Though not in coalition affairs?

[Shamir] Everything is dealt with as deemed necessary.

[Golan] Mr. Shamir, do you totally rule out the possibility of an initiative toward establishing a new national unity government, or are you contemplating such an initiative possibly against the backdrop of the exacerbated situation in the territories and the cooling of relations with the United States?

[Shamir] I have said on many occasions that I prefer a national unity government in view of Israel's predicament—not necessarily right now, but in general, during these times which are fraught with dangers and risks for Israel. Nonetheless, the prevailing political reality must be taken into consideration. I tried, or actually established, a national unity government approximately 18 months ago, hoping very much that it would complete its term through the next Knesset elections—and in fact there was every reason to think so. My hopes were disappointed. That government was dissolved by one of the partners, not by me. As a result, it is impossible or at least extremely difficult to form a similar government today and carry on as though nothing had happened. It is simply that the political reality, given the main actors in this play, now precludes this.

[Golan] What if one figure is replaced by another, namely if Rabin steps into Peres' shoes in the Alignment?

[Shamir] I would not like to hint at anything. I think it is not beneficial to discuss this right now. If such a possibility emerges one day, I hope such a government would be possible.

[Golan] Thank you very much, Mr. Prime Minister.

Peres Comments on Meetings With Mubarak in Cairo

TA2505161990 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 25 May 90 p 15

[Interview with Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres by Dan Avidan, in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Avidan] What did President Mubarak tell you about his talks with Gorbachev and with James Baker in Moscow, or about his talks with Chinese leaders?

[Peres] The conclusion from all these meetings is one: that the dialogue between us and the Palestinians must begin. There is no alternative. Everyone supports such a dialogue and waits for Israel to have a government and decide on its policy.

[Avidan] How does President Mubarak view the developments in East Europe and their effect on the Middle East?

[Peres] He thinks that East Europe is undergoing a serious crisis because the economic and social angles have been neglected while too much emphasis has been placed on the political and military aspects. Too much money has been invested in armies and in wars, and too little resources have been directed toward the society and the economy. The time has come for all this to change. Mubarak is convinced that now, more than ever before, the Arab world is prepared to pursue the path of peace.

[Avidan] What will Egypt's policy be if Israel is ruled by a narrow rightist government? How does he envision the next phase of the political process, if such a government rules in Israel, particularly if it avoids the Israeli-Palestinian meeting in Cairo?

[Peres] I did not ask him this and therefore cannot reply in his name. I think everyone will judge Israel according to its policy, not according to its government's composition. It is immaterial whether it is a narrow- or broad-based government; what matters is if it is a government of peace or one that retreats from peace. If it is the latter, the Arab world will unite and march toward war.

[Avidan] Have you reached any agreement with President Mubarak regarding the nature of relations between the Labor Party and the Egyptian ruling party?

[Peres] Yes. Yesterday, Butrus Ghali (Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs) was elected president of the Socialist International, so that obviously meetings on the partisan level will also be held [sentence as published]. Five Arab parties are already members of the Socialist International. This is no simple matter for us, but it can conceivably create new opportunities for contacts which never existed before.

[Avidan] Did Mubarak give you any advice as to how to conduct yourself as opposition leader politically, in the event that Shamir succeeds in forming a narrow-based rightist government?

[Peres] I did not seek advice, nor did I get any. I believe the Labor Party will remain faithful to its policy, whether it is in the government or in the opposition. It did not quit the government because it prefers to be in the opposition. It left the government because the government had departed from the peace process. Therefore, everything will be determined by the peace process. Mubarak never touched on the question of what the Labor Party should do if it is in the opposition. This is an internal Israeli matter.

[Avidan] Did Mubarak suggest that you start a dialogue with 'Arafat?

[Peres] No. He knows precisely what my position regarding the PLO is, and there was no attempt to pressure me on this.

[Avidan] Did you and Mubarak discuss new proposals to advance the dialogue in Cairo between Israeli and Palestinian delegations?

[Peres] We discussed Jordan and ways to bring it back to the negotiations. Here Mubarak raised various ideas.

[Avidan] Did you not discuss ways to overcome the obstacles that had prevented the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue from taking off earlier?

[Peres] This depends on the composition of the government that will be set up in Israel and its policy. [passage omitted]

Shamir Briefed on 'Grave Rift' in U.S. Ties

TA2705094490 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 May 90 pp 1, 13

[By political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Excerpt] Israel is facing a grave rift in relations with the United States which might reach disastrous proportions. Moshe Arad, Israel's ambassador to Washington, warned about such a development in a five-page classified report he sent this weekend to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and the foreign minister.

In the special report, a copy of which has reached me, Arad maintains "Israel is facing a grave crisis in its relations with the United States, which obliges it to reconsider the basic aspects of its policy, especially on the disputed issues: the peace process and settlements."

The report stresses that the U.S. Administration will not be prepared to accept a continued stalemate in the peace process. "If after the establishment of a new government the Americans reach the conclusion that Israel does not plan to continue the peace process based on its own initiative, the U.S. Administration will go back to the international conference idea," Ambassador Arad warned.

The ambassador, who also recalled the purchase of St. John's Hospice in Jerusalem's Christian Quarter, points out that the latest developments also harmed Israel's relations with Congress and with "our friends among the Jewish community who watch with sadness how Israel is losing the support it enjoyed for years."

The Prime Minister's Office told me that Shamir has already read Arad's report and even spoke to him about it on the telephone, and that he plans to deal with the problems raised in it after he forms a government. [passage omitted]

Clash Near U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem

TA2605111390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Stones were thrown at policemen and tires were burned near the U.S. Consulate in the al-Shaykh Jarrah neighborhood of East Jerusalem this afternoon. Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that a police unit was summoned and that several suspects were detained.

'Abnormal' Army Movements Along Arab Borders

JN2805190290 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 May 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Important diplomatic sources are talking about abnormal military movements by the Israeli Army in anticipation of the outcome of the Arab summit in Baghdad. According to the information, which our station obtained from important sources, Israeli designate Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has recently held a meeting with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, commanders of air and ground forces, and director of the Israeli military intelligence. The conferees discussed allegations by Israeli intelligence that there exists an Iraqi-Jordanian-Palestinian plan to attack Israel over the next few months and that the plan will be endorsed by the Baghdad summit.

In light of this, an Israeli military committee was set up to discuss a proposed military plan to counter the results of the summit. The plan was subject of detailed discussions during meetings between commanders of the Israeli Army's main branches with the participation of Shamir and Arens.

The sources said Shamir gave orders to reinforce military positions along the border with all neighboring countries, raise the state of alert in the Israeli Army, call up the reservists, and compel military commanders to be available in their offices all the time. It was learned that Israeli armored vehicles were massed along the borders with neighboring Arab countries and that the positions of fighter planes and missiles have been shifting over the past few hours.

In a related development, the sources revealed new information that Shamir gave his personal consent to the implementation of the Rishon Leziyyon massacre and that he gave orders to the Israeli generals to chase and kill Palestinians after the massacre with a view to discouraging Arab countries and the Palestinians from taking any common measures against Israel at the Baghdad summit.

IDF Kills 'Terrorist' North of Security Zone

TA2905093590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 29 May 90

[Excerpt] A terrorist was killed in a clash with an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] unit in south Lebanon. Our forces sustained no casualties.

Our correspondents Karmela Menashe and Hayim Hecht report that the clash occurred yesterday in the central sector north of the security zone. [passage omitted]

Group Threatens 'Reprisals' Against U.S., Israel

Provides Photograph of Hostages

NC2605163390 Paris AFP in English 1630 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Beirut, May 26 (AFP)—An underground group holding two U.S. hostages in Lebanon threatened reprisals Saturday [26 May] against the United States and Israel for Palestinian deaths in the Israeli-occupied territories. The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine (IJLP), in a statement delivered to a Western news agency in west Beirut, said it would make the United States and Israel "pay the price for the blood shed by Palestinians" in the territories. "The next developments will not be favourable" to the two countries, the IJLP said, adding that "the only effective riposte to their policies is force."

The statement was authenticated by a colour photograph of the two IJLP hostages, U.S. professors Alann Steen and Jesse Turner, but did not specify whether they were targeted by the threat.

Group 'Forced' To Delay Decisions

NC2605172890 Paris AFP in English 1719 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Beirut, May 26 (AFP)—An underground group holding two U.S. hostages in Lebanon threatened reprisals Saturday against the United States and Israel for the murders of seven Palestinians near Tel Aviv last weekend. The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine (IJLP), in a statement delivered to a Western news agency in west Beirut, did not say if the two hostages, professors Alann Steen and Jesse Turner, were targeted by the threat. But the group warned, without elaborating: "After this crime committed by Zionism and its American sponsor, the reactions that have appeared internationally have forced our organisation to delay its decisions."

The statement, handwritten in Arabic and authenticated by a colour photograph of Mr. Steen and Mr. Turner, said force was "the only effective riposte" to the murders of the Palestinians near Tel Aviv on May 20. "America is directly responsible for the blood that was shed, and we warn that country as well as Israel—the next developments will not be favourable to them and they will pay the price for the blood shed," it said.

The killings, by an Israeli gunman described by the authorities as mentally deranged, sparked fresh violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in which at least 15 Palestinians have been killed and hundreds wounded.

The photograph of Mr. Steen and Mr. Turner, abducted on January 24, 1987 from the Beirut University College (BUC) campus where they worked, showed the two men, both bearded, sitting at a table.

The pro-Iranian IJLP released one of its hostages, BUC professor Robert Polhill, on April 22 as a gesture of "goodwill" towards the United States that it attributed to the efforts of Syria, Iran and Islamic religious leaders. Another U.S. hostage, Frank Reed, was released by another underground group eight days later. Iran and Syria have since called for a reciprocal gesture from the United States.

Washington thanked Syria and Iran for the release of the two hostages but have ruled out any deals for the freedom of six other Americans who remain captive in Lebanon along with nine other Westerners.

RFL Reports Threat

NC2605190390 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1850 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] In a statement handed to a Western news agency this evening, the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine [IJLP] has threatened that it will make the United States and Israel pay the price for the Palestinian blood being shed in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, as the statement put it. The IJLP said that the upcoming developments will not be in the interests of these two countries. The IJLP holds U.S. hostages Alann Steen and his colleague Jesse Turner and accompanied the statement with two photographs of them.

Al-Musawi: 'Possibility' of UK Hostage Release

NC2705183890 Paris AFP in English 1824 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Beirut, May 27 (AFP)—A senior pro-Iranian Lebanese figure Sunday [27 May] said some British hostages held in Lebanon might be freed if Britain expelled Salman Rushdie, condemned to death by Iran and currently under British police protection. Husayn al-Musawi, head of Islamic Amal, said in a press statement: "It would not be necessary for Rushdie to be handed over to us, or sent to Iran or Syria. Proof that he had left Britain would be sufficient. Mrs. Thatcher (British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher) can send Rushdie wherever she likes."

Mr. al-Musawi spoke of the "possibility of obtaining the release of certain British hostages in Lebanon" if Mr. Rushdie were "expelled from Britain." The Indian-born British author has been in hiding in Britain since February 1989 when the late Iranian spiritual guide, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, condemned him to death on grounds that his novel "The Satanic Verses" had blasphemed Islam. Britain's refusal to surrender Mr. Rushdie or to meet Iranian demands that it distance itself from the book triggered a break in Iranian-British diplomatic relations in March of last year.

Mr. al-Musawi has denied any involvement in hostage-taking but has issued several recent statements on efforts to free Western captives. "The British are acting more positively than the Americans in trying to secure the freedom of their hostages," he said Sunday without elaborating.

Four Britons and six Americans are among 15 Western hostages believed held in Lebanon, several of whom are reportedly in the hands of pro-Iranian Shiite factions.

Islamic Jihad Conditions for Anderson's Release

NC2805065090 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0430 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] An unidentified person claiming to speak for the Islamic Jihad Organization contacted the paper AL-DIYAR last night. He said that his organization is ready to free hostage Terry Anderson if Israel sets free all Palestinian detainees in the occupied West Bank.

Strikes Staged To Protest War, Living Conditions

NC2905125290 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] All private and public sectors and establishments staged a general strike in all Lebanese areas today. The strike was called by the follow-up committee of the national trade unionist congress to protest the deterioration of the economy and living conditions. The strike in the capital was total. The streets were not crowded as they usually are.

Popular demonstrations were staged in the capital and several other areas. Thousands of people participated in these demonstrations to protest the high cost of living resulting from the increase in foreign currency exchange rates, the drop in the value of the national currency, and the collapse of the economic structure because of the continued war. REUTER reported that Lebanon has not witnessed such a broad and comprehensive strike since 1987.

A big demonstration in which thousands of persons participated set off from the premises of the National Federation of Trade Unions in Wata al-Musaytibah in the capital at 1030 this morning. The demonstrators were led by trade union leaders and officials of the social, popular, and party organizations. Units of the internal security forces and Syrian Arab forces accompanied the demonstrators, who carried placards and slogans denouncing monopolies and financial speculation and demanding that the state assume its responsibilities vis-a-vis the deterioration in living conditions. They also demanded an end to the war and fighting and called for the imposition of the legitimate authority in all Lebanon. The demonstrators marched to the Cola circle, Corniche al- Mazra'ah-Burj Abu Haydar junction, Mar Ilyas, Karakul al-Druz, al- Mallah, and reached Government House in al-Sana'i' at noon. Sulayman al-Basha addressed the demonstrators on behalf of the follow-up committee of the national trade unionist congress. He said: Today's move is merely the first of a series of moves which will not stop or cease before our national, economic, and social goals, which are legitimate rights that can brook no bargaining, are achieved. If they respond they will avert something greater.

The strike in Sidon covered the public and private establishments. Shops and money changing centers closed down. A big demonstration set off from al-Najmah square toward Martyrs Square and then headed toward the General Labor Federation headquarters. The demonstrators were led by Dr. Usamah Sa'd, deputy chairman of the Nasirite Popular Organization; Hasib 'Abd- al-Jawad, deputy chairman of the workers federation; and party, trade unionist, and labor leaders. The demonstrators carried slogans calling for an end to the war and rejecting monopolies and the imposition of protection money. They urged the state to provide social services.

In Kasrawan a big demonstration set off from the entrance of Juniyah port at 1100 and headed to Government House in the city. Trade unionist leaders and political figures headed the demonstrators.

The strike in the North covered the various educational and banking institutions. A general and comprehensive strike was also staged in the south, al-Biqa', and the mountain area.

Further on Attack on Iranian Embassy in Beirut

NC2705115690 Paris AFP in English 1135 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Beirut, May 27 (AFP)—The Iranian Embassy in the Lebanese capital was damaged in a clash between rival Shiite Moslem militias late Saturday [26 May] that left one dead and seven injured. The embassy said Sunday that "certain indisciplined paramilitary elements once again violated the diplomatic immunity of Iran's mission." One floor of the fortified three-storey villa in the Jnah district on the southern outskirts of Beirut was hit by two anti-tank rockets, while 25 cars parked outside were set ablaze.

Syrian troops, who have been posted in Moslem sectors of Beirut since February 1987, intervened to halt the two-hour clash between the pro-Iranian group Hizballah and Syrian-backed Amal. The two militias have clashed for the last two years in a bid for control of Lebanon's Shiites, the country's largest religious community. A confrontation Friday in the Shiite Southern Suburb left four dead and 43 injured.

An Amal communique accused the guards at the embassy of opening fire first, saying they numbered 300 and were all Hizballah fighters. The militia urged the Iranian authorities to "intervene to end the actions of these bands," which Amal said were supporters of Iranian MP Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, a noted Islamic hardliner. But Hizballah charged Amal with "intentionally opening fire on the embassy and its guards."

Amal-Hizballah Fighting Spreads in West Beirut

NC2505173390 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] The competent security organs are taking action in cooperation with the Syrian Arab forces to stop the clashes between Amal and Hizballah. The fighting spread to al-Hujjaj Street in al-Shiyah this afternoon and soon extended to the Beirut Airport road. The two parties are on alert in the Burj al-Barajinah traffic circle area.

Amal Reportedly Resumes Attacks

NC2705064690 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Amal cliques once again poured their wrath and malevolence on the people and their property at dawn today. They detonated an explosive charge near the al-Hajjaj building in al-Shiyah at 0320 today. They also threw a hand grenade at position No. 71 near the Mar Mikha'il church at 0400 today.

Casualty Update; 'Calm' Prevails

NC2605065290 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 May 90

[Excerpts] According to the latest security reports, calm prevails in all areas in which yesterday's fighting between the Amal Movement and Hizballah left three people dead and more than 40 wounded. [passage omitted]

An official source in the Amal Movement has stated that two Amal Movement members, Wisam Qaddahah and Wisam 'Ayyash, were killed and nine were wounded.

The people's first aid organization announced last night that an ambulance came under heavy fire while it was transporting some of the wounded in the Southern Suburb. The head of the first aid team, Hasan Shu'aytu, was martyred and four first aid workers were wounded.

Clashes Resume 26 May

NC2605142190 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] A security source in Amal Movement has stated that clashes between Amal Movement and Hizballah resumed in the vicinity of the Amal Movement's command post in Burj al-Barajinah and around the Iranian Embassy in Bir' Hasan at 1630 today. The source said that the Syrian Arab Forces are trying to halt the clashes and restore the situation to normal.

Meanwhile, the Amal Movement's command has ordered its gunmen to abide by the cease-fire.

'Complete Calm' After Clashes

NC2605193490 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Complete calm is now prevailing in the areas which were the scene of earlier clashes between Amal Movement and Hizballah. Four people were wounded in the clashes and taken to hospitals.

The Syrian Arab Forces deployed in the tense areas and managed to restore complete calm after contacts were made with the parties concerned.

KUNA Interviews 'Awn on Peace Accord

LD2905080390 Kuwait KUNA in English 0725 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] Kuwait, May 29 (KUNA)—Former Lebanese Army leader General Michel 'Awn, in a press interview here Tuesday, reiterated that he still rejects the document of national reconciliation approved by the Lebanese parliament. Speaking to daily AL-ANBA' in an exclusive interview from the heavily guarded presidential palace in Ba'bda, 'Awn emphatically said that "they have to reconsider their position...and if they insist, they might crush us but will not have our endorsement."

'Awn was not referring to the Lebanese forces under the leadership of his arch [as received] Samir Ja'ja', but was directing his statements to the position taken by the Arab League tripartite committee which brokered the so-called al-Ta'if accord on national reconciliation.

"There is insistence on oppression and a desire not to benefit from what has happened...if the insistence on oppressing us still there, then it is rejected from my point of view," said 'Awn in a comment on reports of a new effort by the tripartite committee to put pressure on 'Awn through the Vatican. "If they want to impose a solution on us, we repeat to them that the solution might crush us but will not obtain our endorsement," he stressed.

Asked about the current truce in the fighting with Ja'ja' which started four months ago, 'Awn said that the ceasefire presently holding in East Beirut is not wholly linked to the holding of an Arab summit in Baghdad.

He added that Lebanon does not need a ceasefire which might be violated at any time, but needs a political settlement. "As long as a political alternative is absent, the problem will continue to exist."

The 'Awn-Ja'ja' fightings, which started on January 31 of this year, were ignited by the desire of each militia to control the Christian enclave of the war-torn capital. So far each militia control several quarters of Beirut and attempt to expand on the expense of the other.

'Awn, who controls a force of 15,000 troops, told the paper that he still withdraws money from a Paris account number and not the treasury, but refused to go into the details of the matter. He said his forces use nearly six billion Lebanese pounds a month (approx. 6 million dollars) from sources outside the country in the forms of loans and donations.

Al-Qadhdhafi Visits Al-Asad To Discuss Summit

Arrives 'Unexpectedly'

LD2605110490 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 26 May 90

[Excerpt] Damascus, 26 May (KUNA)—The Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived here today unexpectedly on a working visit to Syria. The Libyan leader was given an official welcome at Damascus airport where he was greeted by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and top Syrian officials.

Arab diplomatic sources have indicated that the visit falls within the framework of the intensified Arab contacts and efforts aimed at securing Syria's participation in the Baghdad summit. The goal is an Arab consensus which would enable the summit to adopt resolutions to confront the dangers and challenges facing the Arab nation. [passage omitted]

Confers With Al-Asad

LD2605182990 Kuwait KUNA in English 1457 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Damascus, May 26 (KUNA)—Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi conferred here Saturday [26 May] with Syrian president Hafiz al-Asad and tried to persuade him to attend an emergency Arab summit due to open in Baghdad Monday, Arab diplomatic sources said.

The meeting of the two leaders was attended by Syrian Vice president 'Abd-al-Hazim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and Libyan Foreign Minister Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, an official Syrian source said.

Al-Qadhdhafi, who arrived here earlier in the day on a previously unannounced visit, was the second Arab leader to visit Damascus in a week in part of efforts to make Asad drop his opposition to the Baghdad summit.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak visited here last week for the same purpose but failed to get a clear yes from Asad on attending the summit.

Syria, which has a long-standing ideological dispute with Iraq, contested the choice of the venue and wanted the agenda to be expanded to more than the original two topics: perils of the Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the Western hostile campaign against Iraq.

Mubarak also sent his foreign minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid to Damascus two days ago to relay a message to al-Asad on the same subject.

Only Syria and Lebanon appeared so far reluctant to attend the summit and press reports last week suggested that at least four Arab heads of state including Mubarak and al-Qadhdhafi were likely to stop over in Damascus en route to Baghdad in a last minute effort to persuade al-Asad to attend the conference.

Talks Continue

JN2605181290 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, resumed their talks at 1830 today in a meeting at the presidential palace.

On the Syrian side, the meeting was attended by Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. On the Libyan side, it was attended by Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's External Liaison Bureau.

The talks dealt with the situation in the Arab arena and the Arab summit.

Discuss Arab Issues

JN2705064490 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 27 May 90

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, held a meeting at the Tishrin Palace when Col. al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Damascus at 1300 yesterday. [passage omitted]

At 1830 yesterday, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and Col. al-Qadhdhafi resumed their talks in a meeting held at the presidential palace. [passage omitted]

The talks dealt with the Arab state of affairs and the Arab summit. The two leaders extensively discussed the international situation, world changes, and their impact on the Arab situation and the Arab nation's pan-Arab issues. They also exchanged views on ways to improve the Arab situation and achieve Arab cooperation and coordination to defend Arab rights and ward off impending dangers.

The two leaders discussed all aspects of the Arab summit based on the fact that Syria, in principle, supports the convening of the summit. Syria, however, believes that good and careful preparations must be made for it and that these preparations must be commensurate with the need for convening the summit. Moreover, Syria believes that this summit must provide the necessary requirements to face the crucial challenges posed to the Arab nation by the Zionist enemy, by its expansionist and hostile plans, and also by the results of some world changes and developments.

The talks also dealt with issues of mutual interest.

Banquet Honors Al-Qadhdhafi

LD2705101790 Tripoli JANA in English 0807 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Damascus, 27 May Jamahariya News Agency—The president of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad last night held a dinner banquet in honour of the leader of the revolution.

Present at the banquet were members of the delegation in the company of the leader as well as 'Abd-al-Hazim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah vice presidents of the Syrian Arab Republic, the Syrian prime minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, members of the regional and national commands of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and a number of ministers and senior officials.

Hold Closed Meeting

LD2705215390 Tripoli JANA in English 1425 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Tripoli, al Ma' [May] 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—A closed meeting took place this afternoon in Damascus between the leader of the revolution [al-Qadhdhafi] and President Hafiz al-Asad of the sisterly republic of Syria.

The leader of the revolution and President Hafiz al-Asad completed, during this meeting, the talks which they started yesterday which focused on current Arab issues and the forthcoming Arab summit.

Hold Second Closed Meeting

JN2805055890 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, resumed talks in a closed meeting at the Tishrin Palace last night. The talks revolved around the Arab situation, bilateral relations, and issues of common interest.

President al-Asad and Col. al-Qadhdhafi held talks in a closed meeting at the Tishrin Palace at 1200 yesterday.

Further on Meeting

JN2805135490 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, held a meeting at 0745 today. The meeting was attended by Faruq al-Shar', Syrian minister of foreign affairs, and Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the Libyan People's External Liaison Bureau.

During the meeting, the two leaders resumed talks on the topics discussed in previous meetings pertaining to the Arab situation and bilateral relations. The two sides' assessments of the Arab situation were identical, as were their views on the dangers threatening the Arab nation represented by the Zionist enemy's plans and its aggressive and expansionist projects and also in developments in international relations affecting the situation in the region and the present and future of pan-Arab causes.

The talks also centered on ways to improve the Arab situation and achieve an Arab solidarity capable of facing up to pan-Arab responsibilities and requirements necessary to face the current stage, including international developments and their possible effect on the Arab situation.

Seen Off by Al-Asad, Departs

JN2805074690 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0725 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] Damascus, 28 May (SANA)—Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September revolution in Libya, left Damascus at 0900 today following a three-day visit to the Syrian Arab Republic.

President Hafiz al-Asad led those who saw off Col. al-Qadhdhafi. Also taking part in the sendoff ceremony were Vice Presidents 'Abd- al-Halim Khaddam and Dr. Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and 'Abd-al-Qadir Urfali, Libyan charge d'affaires in Damascus.

After shaking hands with those who came to see him off—the deputy prime ministers, ministers, governor of the Damascus Rural Area, and staff of the Libyan brotherhood bureau [embassy] in Damascus—Col. al-Qadhdhafi and President Hafiz al-Asad headed for the honor dais. The national anthems of the Libyan Jamahiryah and the Syrian Arab republic were then played. The two leaders then reviewed a guard of honor, while a 21-gun salute was fired in honor of the grand guest.

President Hafiz al-Asad earlier accompanied Col. al-Qadhdhafi from Tishrin Palace to Damascus International Airport in an official motorcade.

Talks Show 'Militant Solidarity'

JN2705145490 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 May 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, it is perhaps a self-evident pan-Arab fact in the present Arab time that the common ground and goals of the 8 March Revolution [in Syria] and the 1 September Revolution [in Libya] have made the strong links between the two revolutions and countries a firm, deep-rooted national and pan-Arab tradition which is highlighted whenever the Arab nation experiences a turning point or faces a conspiracy or an aggression. Syria's positions toward fraternal Libya have been honorable since the launching of the Libyan revolution. These positions are engraved in the memory of the revolution generation in Libya, as well as in the memory of the contemporary Arab generation. Libya, for its part, supported Syria in its honorable pan-Arab battles and backed its pan-Arab struggle in defense of the Arabs, their right to their lands, and the future they aspire to. These positions have also been entrenched in the history of Arab-Arab relations in general and Syrian-Libyan relations in particular.

The meeting between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Damascus constitutes a bright and prominent beacon along the road of militant solidarity to remedy the Arab situation in the face of crucial challenges to the Arab nation and its present and future generations. Syria and Libya fully realize how grave the situation in the region is. They both have a firm, pan-Arab outlook derived from their large popular assets, since the two revolutions reflect the goals and aspirations of the Arabs—namely, the creation of a free, independent Arab homeland with an important international role and a distinguished cultural identity.

Events have proved that Syria and Libya are firmly confronting the conspiracies that target the present and future of the nation. The two revolutions emerged victorious from their battles with the enemy and its backers and supporters. When Syria and Libya stand in the position of pan-Arab confrontation, they embody the ambitions of the masses and work toward their goals with daily, persistent militant action.

Hence the importance of the fraternal Damascus meeting between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi—the meeting that will help bolster militant Arab solidarity and consolidate the Arab position at a time when our nation needs this broad-based solidarity more than ever.

Discussion Continues on Summit Participation

Egypt: Syria To Attend

JN2605134590 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 26 May 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Informed political sources have told our radio that Syria will participate in the coming Baghdad Arab summit. This was contained in a letter President al-Asad sent to President Mubarak yesterday through Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid.

The letter, whose contents were disclosed to our radio by informed sources, says that in the event President Al-Asad excuses himself from attending, he will delegate Foreign Minister Faruq al- Shar' to participate in the summit. It has also been learned that diplomatic contacts are under way with the Lebanese Government to secure its participation in the summit, and that the preliminary results of these contacts have shown that there are positive signs in this respect.

It was also learned in Cairo that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will submit to the Arab summit a draft peace plan to reach agreement on a unified Arab declaration on the principles for peace in the next stage. The Egyptian plan is based on several elements, among them the following: land in exchange for peace; agreement on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the resolutions of the 19th session of the Palestine National Council; Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied territories and a halt to Israeli settlements in these territories; security for Israel in exchange for Israel's respect for Arab security and rights; the cessation of the language of military threats and a call for ridding the Middle East of weapons of mass destruction; inviting international forces to carry out a joint role to push the peace process forward, or to agree that the United Nations should perform such a role; reiterating the need to hold an international conference as the basic means to conclude a definitive peace agreement and settle the Arab-Israeli conflict; and the reaffirmation of the Palestinians' right to establish their independent state in the occupied territories, including Jerusalem.

Al-Asad, Others Not Attending

JN2705101990 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Presidential sources in Damascus have stated that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has failed to convince President Hafiz al-Asad to attend the Arab summit in Baghdad.

It has also been learned that Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Sultan Qabus of Oman will not attend this summit.

'Sources': Syria May Attend

LD2705123490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1104 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Damascus, May 27 (TANJUG)—Syria may agree to attend the forthcoming Arab summit after all, well-informed sources in Damascus have said. As learned, following talks between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who arrived on an unexpected visit to Damascus yesterday, Syria may nevertheless send a delegation to Baghdad. Syria, whose relations with neighbouring Iraq have been frozen for years, refused to attend the summit in Baghdad because it did not want this to be interpreted as a sign of its giving in to the Iraqi regime. The same sources did not exclude the possibility of some other Arab leaders arriving in Syria today with the same motive. However, even if Syria agrees, it is difficult to believe at present that President Asad will go to Baghdad.

According to reports from Algeria, President Chadli Bendjedid will not attend the Arab summit. The Algerian delegation will be headed by Parliament President Rabih Bitat.

In comments in the Algerian press, the holding of the summit in Baghdad is seen as the Arab countries' support for Iraq in the ten-year dispute with Syria.

Al-Asad Not Attending

JN2705171090 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 27 May 90

[Excerpts] King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Baghdad this afternoon to lead his country's delegation to the extraordinary Arab summit scheduled to open in the Iraqi capital tomorrow. [passage omitted]

Reports from Damascus have quoted Syrian presidential spokesman Jubran Kuriyah as saying that President al-Asad told Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi during their third meeting in Damascus today that he does not intend to travel to Baghdad to take part in the summit. Kuriyah said that the two presidents discussed all aspects of the issue, adding that the Syrian president still holds fast to his opinion on the need for the Arab League foreign ministers to meet to prepare a detailed agenda for the summit. [passage omitted]

Editorial Rejects 'Improvisation'

JN2805062890 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 28 May 90

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Challenges Facing our Nation Cannot Tolerate More Damage" AL-BA'TH says in its editorial: Since the first signs of the new dangers facing the pan-Arab cause and the existence and future of the entire Arab nation, Syria was the first to sound the alarm and caution against the seriousness of what is taking place. Leader struggler Hafiz al-Asad announced that what is happening in the world today requires the Arabs to shoulder additional burdens. And the first requirement to face these burdens is to rise above trivialities and achieve effective solidarity to confront the imminent danger.

AL-BA'TH affirms that the accelerating events amid the changes proved that our Zionist enemy was the first to benefit from them. Meanwhile, the Arabs were merely observers and the Arab environment remained preoccupied with secondary and regional issues, as well as issues of personal interest.

AL-BA'TH adds: In order to change this situation—and out of the pan-Arab responsibility shouldered by al-Asad's Syria, which it is still shouldering with courage and honesty in defense of the nation and its existence in order to revive an Arab awakening that is in harmony with the current age—Syria exerts all efforts and employs all its potentials to achieve Arab solidarity. This solidarity will promote our nation's position and make the world, in which changes are taking place, respect this nation when this world feels the unity of its word and ranks.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: We work for the sake of Arab solidarity and we will continue to do so through continuous and principled support for convening an ordinary or extraordinary Arab summit. However, we reject improvisation because the decisive challenges facing our nation cannot tolerate further damage in the common Arab action. These challenges require preparations on the level of pan-Arab responsibility, which all must shoulder, together with its burdens, before it is too late and before time overtakes our nation, which is facing threats to its fate, existence, land, and people.

Minister Gives Election Results, Assembly Makeup

JN2705193190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 27 May 90

[Excerpts] At a press conference this evening at the Interior Ministry conference hall, Interior Minister Muhammad Harbah announced the final results of elections to the People's Assembly in its fifth legislative term. The conference was attended by many journalists and correspondents from Arab and foreign news agencies, radio stations, and television networks. The conference was also attended by the two assistants to the interior minister and members of the committee supervising the elections. [passage omitted]

Asked about the number of winners among the Progressive National Front [PNF] and their distribution among the front's parties, the minister said: The parties represented in the new People's Assembly are the parties that make up the PNF. The seats won by the front are as follows:

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, 134 seats; the Syrian Communist Party, eight seats; the Socialist Unionists Party [Hizb al-Wahdawiyin al-Ishtirakiyin], seven seats; the Socialist Union Party [Hizb al-Ittihad al-Ishtiraki], eight seats; the Arab Socialist Party, five seats; the Socialist Unionist Democratic Party [Al-Hizb al-Wahdawi al-Ishtiraki al-Dimoqrati], four seats.

This makes a total of 166 PNF members. The number of independent winners is 84. The total number is 250. [passage omitted]

On the number of winners who made it to the Assembly for the first time, the interior minister explained that the new Assembly has 173 new members and 77 old ones. Of 21 seats won by females, 16 women are entering the Assembly for the first time. [passage omitted]

Asked about the educational qualifications of winners, he explained that seven of them are university professors, nine are physicians, 15 are engineers, 13 are lawyers, and 70, including 11 women, are holders of various university degrees.

Discusses Election Results

JN2705173390 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1508 GMT 27 May 90

["Statement" by Interior Minister Muhammad Harbah at the Interior Ministry conference hall in Damascus on the results of the Syrian People's Assembly elections—live]

[Text] Brother citizens: We have followed with elation and pride your great response and voting in the various election centers to elect your representatives to the People's Assembly in its fifth legislative term. You have demonstrated a sound awareness of the importance of the people's assembly as an active and effective constitutional body in the country's life.

The large number of candidates and the various methods of campaigning have demonstrated the atmosphere of freedom and the special climate of democracy provided by the leadership. You rushed to the ballot boxes to exercise your national duty, demonstrating a high level of responsibility and the vitality and strength of our internal front. It was profound proof of our masses' faith in and adherence to the principled and firm approach of the glorious Corrective Movement and the historic leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad.

It is a source of relief that the voting process proceeded in an atmosphere of calm and order, and that it was characterized by fairness and freedom despite the hot competition among the candidates to win the honor of representing and serving the people. You have shown your awareness, discipline, and worthiness in exercising the freedom that was made available to you. One of the obvious and prominent cultural features which characterized this legislative term is the great number of women candidates, amounting to 494. This demonstrated the women's desire to actively participate in the building and progress of this country.

Before announcing the results of the elections, the Interior Ministry would like to congratulate the men and women who won the trust of the people. The ministry also congratulates the Syrian people on this splendid democratic event. We also express our appreciation and gratitude to the governors, police commissioners, and those working in the central and subsidiary committees, the internal security members, and all those who contributed to the election process. We thank the media for the good coverage of the various phases of the elections.

Finally, I would like to voice our gratitude to our guests, reporters and correspondents, both Arab and foreigners, who took pains to come to Syria to cover the elections, through which they felt the firm trust between the leadership and the people in this steadfast country. We wish them a good stay in this country.

I hereby read the text of the Interior Ministry's decision on the final results of the People's Assembly elections in its fifth legislative term:

Decision No. 496/MN [Arabic letters "mim" and "nun"]

The Minister of Interior,

In accordance with the General Elections Law issued within legislative statute No. 26 dated 14 April 1973 and its amendments, especially Article 46, Decree no. 62, dated 12 April 1990, fixing a date for electing the People's Assembly members for the fifth legislative term for 1990; the minutes of the central committees for election constituencies in the Syrian Arab Republic; and the minutes of the committee formed by our Decision No. 459/M/M, [Arabic letters "mim" and "mim"] dated 3 May 1990, decides the following:

Article I:

The final results of the People's Assembly elections for the fifth legislative term held on 22 May 1990.

The following candidates will be considered winners of these elections in accordance with the number of votes won by each one of them in his own area:

Province of Damascus constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Muhammad 'Abduh Musbah Baghdadi
Faruq Muhammad Shurayah
Bashirah Shaykh 'Arif Tawakalna
Wisal Muhammad 'Ali Farhah
'Abd-al-Qadir Ibrahim Haqqi Qaddurah
'Abd-al-Razzaq Salih Aqbiq, Muhammad Mahmud Marwan Shikhu
Ahmad Zaki Haydar
Basil Milad Dahduh
Mahmud Mustafa Salamah.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Muhammad Muhammad Khayr Amin Abu-al-Shamat
Ahmad Sharif al-Ghafari
'Ali Subhi al-Turkmani
Muhammad Muhyi-al-Din Fu'ad al-'Ashsha
'Abdallah Muhammad 'Ali Tulbah
Subhi Fallahah
Baha'-al-Din Muhammad Hasan.
Muhammad 'Umar Ihsan Shanqar.
Mahmud 'Abdallah Jabr.
Muhammad Bakr Alusi.
Muhammad 'Adi Ma'mun al-Humsi.
Muhyi-al-Din Jamil Jum'ah.
Muhammad 'Arif Zuhayr al-'Awwa.
Collette Suhayl Khuri.

Province of Damascus Rural Area constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Hamdan Khalid Khushaymi.
Zakiyah Mikha'il (Mutamah).
Hilal Khalid Rizq.
Mahmud 'Abd-al-Latif al-Biqa'i.
Muhammad Khalil Shaddad.
Dhahir Ra'if (Abu-Khalil).
Muhammad 'Abd-al-Karim Akram Zaydan.

Hind 'Abd-al-Latif Hititani.
'Aziz Salim Karbuz.
'Umar Khalil 'Aybur.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
'Abd-al-Hafiz Muhammad al-Qalish.
Amin 'Abd-al-Ghani Hayrab.
Yusuf Mustafa Ju'aydani.
'Abduh Badawi Qasim.
Mustafa Rifa'i 'Awwad al-Rifa'i.
'Ali Muhammad Qabalan.
'Abd-al-Rahman Sa'id al-Ahmar.
Muhammad Ahmad 'Abd-al-'Azim.
Amin Yusuf al-'Unaymi.

The City of Allepo constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Ahmad Muhammad Miri Tawfiq (Karmah).
Ahmad Mahmud al-Labid.
Darwish 'Abd-al-Qadir Darwish.
Muhammad al-Shaykh Muhammad Fatih Hamwi.
Manar Muhammad Nazih Natur.
Ahmad Muhammad Nuri Mawaldi.
Muhammad Muhammad Sa'id 'Ali Shuwayhimi.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Husayn 'Abd-al-Hamid Ka'kah.
'Ala'-al-Din 'Abd-al-Qadir Zaytun.
Ahmad 'Ali 'Idu.
Layla Hasan al-Turkmani.
'Umar Muhammad Wasfi Mardini.
Muhammad Muhammad Sa'id Marwan Saqqal.
Mustafa Mahmud Sukkari.
Jurji Musa 'Azar.
Ahmad Muhammad Adib Badr-al-Din Hassun.
Muhammad Muhammad 'Ali 'Adil Jamus.
Muhammad Muhammad 'Adil Huri.
'Abd-al-'Aziz Muhammad al-Shami.
Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Azzuz.

Other areas in the Province of Halab constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Muhammad Mustafa al-Husayn al-Ibrahim.
Nur-al-Huda Shami Khillu.
Husayn Ahmad Hajji Mahmud.
'Abd-al-Hamid Dibu al-Dibu.
Muhammad Hasan 'Aqil Husayn Agha.
Wahid Tahir Abu-Ras.
Jasim Husayn al-Ibrahim.
'Isa 'Ubayd (al-Zanid)
Muhammad Bashir Qazan.
Sami Muhammad al-Shihabi
Ibrahim Rashid 'Uthman.
'Uthman Hajji Sulayman.
Midhat Ahmad al-Qulaghasi.
Hikmat Subhi Ibrahim.
Dhiyab (Haji-Shawwakh) al-Mashi.
Muhammad 'Abdallah Sa'id Yusuf.
Husni Jamil Hasan.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Muhammad Mahmud Rahhal.
Muhammad Muhammad al-Hasan.
'Abd-al-Razzaq 'Abduh Hamdu al-Shihan.
Ahmad Sa'id al-Sa'id.
Mustafa 'Ali al-'Ali.
Salim Kurayyim al-Hammadi al-Kurayyim.
'Abd-al-Rahman Ibrahim al-Khalil al-Nasir.
Battal 'Arif Battal.
Ahmad 'Isa Muhammad.
Dhunayb Bakr Tajir.
Fadil Hamid Kinnu.
Yusuf 'Abdallah Yusuf Tarbush.
'Abd-al-Hamid Khalil al-Ghazari.
'Abd-al-Rahman Khalil Ibu.
Mustafa Ahmad al-Muhammad.

Province of Hims constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Marwan 'Abd-al-Razzaq Huriyah.
Mahmud Ibrahim al-Dhiyab.
Ilyas Mitri al-Lati.
Huda Nu'man al-Kirbi.
Mustafa Qasim al-'Isa.
Haydar 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Abbas.
Jum'ah Muhammad al-Hammud.
'Abd-al-'Aziz Tirad al-Milhim.
Nazih Wasfi Sa'id.
Mahmud Fad'us Fad'us al-Ramadan.
Ahmad Muhammad Darbuli.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Hikmat Hasan al-Khuli.
Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im Yasir al-Saqqa.
Mahmud Khadr Ma'ruf.
Muhammad 'Adil Ghazi Tayyarah.
Mashhur (Mirhib) Gharibah.
Muhammad 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Aqra'.
'Umar Ahmad Bakkur.
Shihadah Karim Mayhub.
'Ali Khadr al-Khaddur.
Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Khalid.
Salih 'Abd-al-Qadir Talas.
Bahjat 'Abd-al-Majid Rajjub.

Hamah province constituency:

Husayn Murshid Husayn
Fatimah Muhammad al-Saqqa
Amin 'Abduh Bakir
Michel Najib (Ransi)
Fatimah Muhammd (Nurun)
Musafa 'Ali 'Isa
Ahmad 'Ali As'ad
Mahmud Muhammad Hammud
Husayn Muhammad Husayn
Ibrahim 'Ali Haydar
'Abd-al-Karim Ma'adh al-Isma'il
Mizwid Jasim Jasim
Mujib (Nimar) Salamah

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Walid Hamdun Muhammad Raghib

Walid 'Abd-al-Qadir Jad'an
Muhammad Shams-al-Din Muhammad Wahid
Ahmad Ibrahim al-'Ali
Muhammad 'Adnan Mustafa Sulayman
Ibrahim Mahmud Za'rur
Hasan 'Abd-al-Razzaq Sibahi
Lu'ayy Husayn al-Hilu
Ahmad Harun al-Khattab

Al-Ladhdhiqiyah province constituency:

Peasants and workers sector: Sector A
Tawfiq Mahmud Ibrahim
Rafiq Ayyub Darwish
Suhayl As'ad Kan'an
Layla (Ghalwinji) Muhammad ('Atiq)
Tawfiq Hasan Darwish
Mahmud Muhammad 'Adil
Mustafa Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim
Bahjat 'Aziz Sa'd
Ibrahim Hanna al-Lawzah

Other sectors of the people:
Jamil 'Ali al-Asad
Ahmad Musa Abu-Musa
Muhammad Ahmad As'ad
'Adnan Najib 'Ali Khazin
(Surni) Amin Haddad
(Basil) Ilyas Yusuf
Muhammad Yunus 'Ali Nasir
Fayiz 'Uthman 'Uthman 'Uthman

Idlib province constituency:

Workers and peasants sector: Sector A
'Abd-al-Razzaq Muhammd al-Tanari
Muhammad Wajih Duwaydari
Muhammad Khaddur Farran
Bashirah 'Abd-al-Rahman Hamid
Tawfiq 'Ali al-Ibrahim
Nahidah 'Abd-al-Qadir Qassas
Muhammad Ahmad Ibrahim Salim
Mahmud Ahmad Hajj Ahmad
Khalid 'Abd-al-Latif (al-Khudur)
Muhammad Turk al-Sayyid
Walid Mustafa Sardini
Muhammad Muhammad Amin 'Abd-al-Rahman

Other sectors of the people: Sector B
Ahmad 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Gharib
Ahmad Riyad 'Ali (Shihnih)
Muhammad 'Umar Nihad Mushantat 'Awni
Muhammad Husayn Lattuf
Muhammad Muhammad Hikmat Na'san Agha
Muhammad 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Abdallah

Tartus province constituency:

Workers and Peasants and sector: Sector A
'Abd-al-Latif Muhammad Mihriz
Nadim 'Abduh Kanj
'Izz-al-Din Husayn al-Nasir
Muhammad Ghassan Muhammad ('Ari) Tayyarah
'Abd-al-Mun'im 'Abd-al-Rahman Bayyati
Yahya Sa'id al-Khaddam

Other sectors of the people: Sector B
Jamilah Ahmad 'Ali
Muhammad Khalil Zughaybi
Sulayman Muhammad Khaddur
Najm-al-Din Husayn al-Salih
(Nazi) Hanna Bashshur
'Ali Husayn Dawud
Muhsin 'Ali 'Umran

Province of al-Raqqah constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
'Abd-al-Fattah Musa al-Jum'ah.
Mustafa Ahmad al-'Ayid.
Muhammad Muhammad Sa'id Anwar al-Dibs.
'Abd-al-Razzaq Ahmad al-'Id.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Isma'il 'Ubayd al-'Abd-al-Ghani.
Zakariya Muhammad al-Hasan.
Najwa Faysal al-'Ujaymi.
Muhammad Husayn al-'Ammash.

Province of Dayr al-Zawr constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Zahrah Khalil Jasim.
Fayyad Sharif Murayr.
'Abd-al-Jabbar 'Abd-al-Razzaq (al-Maghdud).
Ahmad Hasan al-Hammad.
Ghassan Muhammad Nafi' al-'Abd-al-Rajab.
Nijm 'Abdallah al-'Abdallah.
Jasim Muhammad al-As'ad.
'Abd-al-'Aziz Dawud al-Hammadah.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Nawwaf Raghib al-Bashir.
Zyhatr 'Abd-al-Fattah al-Hamdi.
Ahmad al-Hajj 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Fayyad.
Riyad 'Uthman al-'Abdallah.
Khalil 'Abbud al-Hitl.
Hamad 'Abdallah Shaykh al-Jilat.

Province of al-Hasakah constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Mahmud Ahmad al-Fadil.
Hamad Madhi al-Sahyan.
Ahmad 'Allu al-'Abdallah.
Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Hamid 'Abdallah.
Mahmud Ahmad al-Husayn.
Mahmud Muhammad Dawud.
Fu'ad Rashad 'Alliku.
Mahmud Shawwakh al-Bursan.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Ilyas Bahji 'Abdalki.
Samirah Ilyas Jibra'il.
Muhammad Hammadi Haytham Duwayhi.
Kamal Ahmad Darwish.
'Abd-al-Hamid Sulayman Haj-Musa.

Bashir Ishaq Sa'dah.

Province of Dar'a constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Mahmud 'Abd-al-Qadir al-Zu'bi.
Najah Muhammad Mahamid.
Dhib 'Abd-al-Karim al-Hariri.
'Udah Jiryis Qassis.
Yusuf Muhammad (Abu-Anis) Sa'di.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
'Abd-al-Fattah Ibrahim al-Ibrahim.
'Abd-al-Fattah Sa'id al-Labbad.
Muhammad 'Iqab Mahmud.
Ghassan Yusuf Abazid.
Shafiq Husayn al-Hariri.

Province of al-Suwayda' constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Muhanna Mahmud al-Tawil.
Mu'ayad Hasan Subuh.
Salamah 'Abduh al-Yasin.
'Abdallah 'Abd-al-Ghaffar al-Atrash.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Kamil Hayil 'Amir.
Hasan Sulayman Jarbu'.

The province of al-Qunaytirah constituency:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Abd-al-Majid Ahmad al-Fa'uri.
Shakib Yusuf Abu-Jabal.
Radwan Muhammad al-Tahhan.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Muhsin 'Ali 'Ali.
'Arif Tahir Haj-Yusuf.

Article II:

This decisions shall be published and all those concerned shall be informed of it.

Damascus, 3 Dhu-al-Qiqdah 1410 Hegira, corresponding to 27 May 1990.

[Signed] Muhammad Harbah, the interior minister.

Gentlemen, brother citizens: Now that we have read out the names of the winners, we find it helpful to furnish you with the following information on the election process:

The number of candidates in all constituencies amounted to 9,765. These included 5,483 candidates representing Sector A and 4,282 representing Sector B.

The number of male candidates amounted to 9,271 and female candidates to 494.

The number of candidates who continued the race in all constituencies stood at 2,657, of whom 1,095 candidates represented Sector A and 1,562 Sector B. The number of males among these candidates was 2,541 and the number of females was 116.

The candidates competed for the 250 People's Assembly seats.

The number of constituencies was 15, and the number of polling stations was 7,651.

The number of the electorate according to civil registration records amounted to 6,576,907.

The number of those who turned out to vote reached 3,264,616. This means 49.63 percent of the electorate cast their votes. The low percentage can be explained by the fact that a large number of those entitled to vote reside outside the republic, especially in Arab countries, some European countries, and the two American continents for purposes of work or study. Moreover, a large number of citizens at home were not allowed to vote in accordance with the law, for example, members of the Armed Forces and the police force.

From a study by the Central Statistics Bureau carried out in 1988 on the number of citizens outside the Syrian territories, and from our knowledge of the number of the Armed Forces and police personnel who, according to the law, cannot vote in the elections—the total number of these two categories is estimated at 1, 200,000 at least; and this is a modest figure. If we subtract this figure from the total number of electorate—6,576,907—we find that the true percentage of the turnout is 60.71; this is the accurate and realistic percentage.

The number of winners in the People's Assembly elections is 250, of whom 127 members represent sector A and 123 represent sector B. The number of male winners amounted to 229 and female winners to 21.

The number of independent winners amounted to 84 members.

Afghanistan

Assembly Records Vote of Confidence in Khaliqyar

LD2705143990

[Editorial Report] Kabul Domestic Service in Dari at 1343 GMT on 27 May broadcasts a live 19-minute relay from the proceedings of the Wolasi Jirga (People's Assembly), where a vote of confidence is taking place on the government of prime minister designate Fazl Haq Khaliqyar. The chairman of the Wolasi Jirga speaks saying that those who wanted to express their views on the policy of the government expressed them during the last session. There is no one else to express any view. "Therefore, with your permission, we vote on the issue of approving the foreign and domestic policy and structure of the cabinet, and giving a vote of confidence to the government of the prime minister designate, esteemed Fazl Haq Khaliqyar, based on the instructions of Articles 82 and 101 of the Constitution of the Republic of Afghanistan. Those esteemed representatives who approve and give a vote of confidence to the foreign and domestic policy and structure of the government designate, esteemed Fazl Haq Khaliqyar, please raise your hands. Thank you.

"Any opposite vote? Thank you. One person.

"Any abstaining vote? There is no abstaining vote.

"Therefore, the foreign and domestic policy and structure of the government of the prime minister designate, esteemed Fazl Haq Khaliqyar, is approved with an absolute majority vote, and has the confidence of the esteemed members of the Wolasi Jirga of the Republic of Afghanistan."

The chairman then congratulates the new prime minister, and asks him to make a speech. Then Khaliqyar delivers an 11-minute speech, which is followed by the chairman's thanks for his participation.

Khaliqyar Speaks to Assembly on Confidence Vote

LD2705193390 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1349 GMT 27 May 90

[Speech by Prime Minister Fazl Haq Khaliqyar to the Wolasi Jirga [National Assembly] following vote of confidence on the government—live; Khaliqyar begins speaking in Pashto and changes to Dari]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Esteemed chairman of Wolasi Jirga, trusted representatives of the nation. Allow me to express appreciation to you on behalf of myself and my colleagues for the vote of confidence given to us by the Wolasi Jirga after the comprehensive discussion and expression of views on my government's policy. At these moments, when my government is standing at the circle of the representatives of the nation, I will say plainly that the vote of confidence given by you, worthy representatives of the people, has increased my responsibility toward implementing the national reconciliation policy and the provisions of the government's policy. My government will have the duty to concentrate all its efforts toward the fact that this trust by the representatives of the people will not be wasted.

Mr. Chairman and esteemed representatives, my colleagues and I have heard your views about the government's policy. Without doubt your words will guide and instruct us toward removing the people's difficulties and toward meeting their demands. My colleagues and I are familiar with those shortcomings, [word indistinct] and problems that our country faces. Therefore, we firmly decided to remove them, within the means of the government.

I would like to state before you that in economic, administration, politico-social, and cultural areas and to carry out [words indistinct] reforms [words indistinct] should be expected beyond the means. The main guide for the activity of my government, which has also been pointed out in the policy, is based on (?sincere service to the people) in line with the tenets of the sacred religion of Islam and with the worthy traditions of the people of Afghanistan. It will be active and [word indistinct] toward the realization of the policy of national reconciliation.

At these moments when it is the beginning of the actual work of the government, I am thinking about my economic [word indistinct]. If Almighty God wills, with the help of the people of Afghanistan and with all around cooperation by you, esteemed representatives of the nation, we will, with honor, accomplish the [word indistinct] policy and will successfully accomplish the pledges that we have made before the people. [Khaliqyar now speaks in Dari]

Dear and courageous brothers, your appropriate and sensible proposals and criticisms gave me and members of the government the strength for more work and activity. You get to government the righteous voice and demand of the nation. [as heard] It is our duty to embark on alleviating defects, shortcomings, and inadequacies with availible possibilities and with indefatigable efforts and strivings. With respect your responsibly [words indistinct] views. On the ground of the proposed demands the government presently, [words indistinct] has embarked on specific major measures. We will report the gained consequences to the Wolasi Jirga in three months. We do not consider ourselves separate from you; we consider the government positions and power a means of meeting the longstanding wishes of our people and reassure there will not the slightest distance or obstacle of meeting between the representatives and members of our free nation and members of the cabinet, including the prime minister and the ministers. The doors of the administration's offices will be opened to all compatriots.

If the representatives of some strata of the society, tribes and residents of a number of provinces are not included in the structure of the cabinet, this does not mean lack of attention in this regard. On one hand the limit of (?position) prevents it and on the other hand there is a lack of readiness by a number of the qualified persons to take up ministerial posts and accept responsibility.

Despite all these, each member of the cabinet will consider himself or herself servant of the homeland and compatriots as it has been mentioned in the policy of the government. [words indistinct] I felt it necessary to mention that we, with the help of Almighty God and your direct and active participation, esteemed representatives and all the brave compatriots, have firmly decided to struggle against corruption, law-breaking and [word indistinct]. This is our common pain. We are hopeful to overcome this with the each other's help. As it is an expression which says that "no sound will be heard from one hand," I invite all the dear nations of Afghan for unity, unanimity, and cooperation. To get together, as it is said by Khoja Hafis Sherazi [famous Dari poet] to spread flowers and bring about a new start to remove destruction and belligerence from their lands forever. One should act seriously and decisively in this direction. No one can say that he or she does not have any responsibility. [words indistinct] Any Muslim and religious persons consider the struggle against destruction and [word indistinct] as a moral and religious duty.

Prejudgments and implying unfair accusations by Mr. Shahi [not further identified; possibly a Wolasi Jirga representative] which were said about me and my colleague against the good Afghani custom is a cause of (?regret) for us. It is known to all that all the peaceful proposals and measures during the last three years in the framework of the national reconciliation policy, the result of which was the withdrawal of the Soviet forces, democracy, multi- party and parliamentary activity, preparation of favorable grounds to end war and to ensure peace, freedom of speech and expression, has been in the interest of all the people of Afghanistan.

Mr. Shahi himself has enjoyed its benefit. To portray all these outcomes, national and goodwill measures which are in the interest of the people as stage-making and an [word indistinct] activities is far from fair judgment or realism. I leave the judgment to you, worthy representatives of Wolasi Jirga and the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan.

The policy of our government will be fully independent and based on the demands of the people of Afghanistan, high interest of the country and peace in the region and world. We say this with honesty and will make every effort to implement it. We do understand the goodwill and intention of our people and attach endless respect to them. We believe the brave and aware nation of Afghans will always support the true servants of the country. We will embark on helping them endlessly with the help of great Almighty God. We will make unity, brotherhood, kindness, and self-sacrifice the slogan of our life to achieve our high and sacred goals.

I again mention to you we have committed ourselves to work. We are not afraid of difficulties in this direction. If you notice any slip from the direct path [word indistinct] against the interest of the people of Afghanistan and our country in the accomplishment of my cabinet on the measures that will be taken by us, you should help and assist us on the instructions of God and Prophet Muhammad, may peace be upon him and his families.

Let us come and keep the resource clean and shining [as heard]. Success comes from God.

Najibullah Decree Confirms New Government

LD2705182190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] The Presidential Office reports that a decree has been issued by Esteemed Najibullah, President of Afghanistan, on approval of the head and members of the government with the following text:

The decree by the president of Afghanistan on approval of head and members of the government:

In accordance with the instructions of Paragraph 4, Article 75 of the Constitution, I approve the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Afghanistan government, which has obtained vote of confidence from the Wolasi Jirga [People's Assembly] of Meli Shura [National Assembly] in accordance with the instruction of Paragraph 1, Article 82 of the Constitution, in the following order:
Fazl Haq Khaliqyar, prime minister.
Esteemed Mahmud Barialay, first deputy prime minister.
Esteemed Dr. 'Abdul Wahid Sorabi, deputy prime minister of planning.
Esteemed Dr. Nematullah Pazhwak, deputy prime minister.
Esteemed 'Abdul Qayum Nurzay, deputy prime minister.
Esteemed Sarwaw Mangal, deputy prime minister.
Esteemed Mahbubullah Koshani, deputy prime minister.
Esteemed Masoma Esmati Wardak, minister of education and training.
Esteemed Professor Ghulam Mahaynodin Darez, minister of justice.
Esteemed Profesor Mehr Muhammad Ejazi, minister of public health.
Estemed 'Abdul Wakil, foreign affairs minister.
Esteemed Raz Muhammad Paktin, minister of interior.
Esteemed Saleha Faruq Etamadi, minister of social security.
Esteemed Muhammad Hakim, finance minister.
Esteemed Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, minister of defense.
Esteemed Ghulam Faruq Ya'qubi, minister of state security.
Esteemed Muhammad Sadiq (Selani), minister of islamic affairs and endowment.

Esteemed Ghulam Mayhodin Shabaz, minister of central statistics.
Esteemed Sarjang Zazi, minister of border affairs.
Esteemed Engineer Muhammad Ghofran, minister of agriculture.
Esteemed Dr. Muhammad Anwar Dost, minister of light industry and foodstuffs.
Esteemed Dr. Faqir Muhammad Nekzad, minister of construction affairs.
Esteemed 'Abdul Samad Saleh, minister of mines and industries.
Esteemed Hamidullah Tarzi, minister of civil aviation.
Esteemed Enginer Sayyed Nasem Ulowi, minister of communications.
Esteemed Mir 'Abdul Ghafur Rahimm, minister of water and electricity.
Esteemed 'Abdul Bashir Roygar, minister of culture and information.
Esteemed Dr. Professor Muhammad Anwar Shamas, minister of higher and vocational education.
Esteemed Fateh Muhammad Tarin, minister of returnees affairs.
Esteemed Zakim Shah, minister of commerce.
Esteemed Engineer Hayatollah Azizi, minister of rival and rural development.
Esteemed Khalilullah, minister of transport.
Esteemed Nur Ahmad Barits, minister without portfolio.
Esteemed Dr. Faqir Muhammad Ya'qubi, minister without portfolio.
Esteemed Dr. Shah Wali, minister without portfolio.
Esteemed Sayyed Akram Paygir, minister without portfolio.

The above decree should be sent to the Ministry of Justice to be published in the official gazette.

[Signed] Najibullah, president of Afghanistan.

Najibullah Decree Names Loya Jirga Members

LD2705183290 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Kabul, 27 May, BAKHTAR—The Presidential Office reports that a decree has been issued by esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, on the appointment of a number of political, social, and scientific personalities and religious figures as members of the Loya Jirga [Grand National Assembly]. The decree by the president on the appointment of the political, social, and scientific personalities and religious figures as members of the Loya Jirga:

In accordance with Paragraph 9 of Article 66 of the the Republic of Afghanistan Constitution, the following political, social, and religious personalities are appointed as members of the Loya Jirga:

1. Esteemed Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, first vice president.
2. Esteemed 'Abdul Rahim Hatif, vice president.
3. Esteemed General Muhammad Rafi', vice president.
4. Esteemed 'Abdul Hamid Mohtat, vice president.
5. Esteemed Muhammad Eshaq Tokhi, vice president.
6. Esteemed retired General Khan Muhammad Khan, ex-defense minister.
7. Esteemed Hamidullah Geran, first secretary of the Toilers Organization of Afghanistan.
8. Esteemed Abdul Ghafar Sharia, first secretary of the Young Workers Organization of Afghanistan.
9. Esteemed Zaman Gol Dehati, first secretary of the Vanguard toilers Organization of Afghanistan.
10. Esteemed Shafiqa Seraj.
11. Esteemed Haji Muhammad Samkani, head of the Administrative Department of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Nationalities.
12. Esteemed Mawlawi Saheboll-Haq, chairman of the Islamic Consultative Council.
13. Esteemed Azizodin Wakili Poplzai.
14. Esteemed Muhammad Hasan Sharq, ex-prime minister.
15. Esteemed Candidate Academician Professor Asadollah Habib, member of the Science Academy.
16. Esteemed Sulayman La'eq, member of the Politburo and Central committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA].
17. Esteemed General Asef Delawar, chief of general staff of the Republic of Afghanistan Defense Ministry.
18. Esteemed Engineer Nazar Muhammad, member of the Central Committee and Secretary of the PDPA.
19. Esteemed Lieutenant General 'Abdul Fatah, general commander of the Air and Air Defense Forces.
20. Esteemed Ahmad Nabi, head of the administrative section of the Presidency Department of Council Affairs.
21. Esteemed Professor Dr. Aminollah Qayum, head of the Training and Education Department of the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education.
22. Esteemed Abdul Qayum Qawim, dean of the College of Language and Literature.
23. Esteemed Candidate Academician Muhammad Ebrahim Ata'i, member of the Academy of Science.
24. Esteemed Candidate Academician 'Abdul Samad Salim, deputy to the Academy of Science.
25. Esteemed Professor Gholam Sadiq Mohabi, lecturer in Kabul's Institute of Polytechnic.
26. Esteemed Alhaj Shiekh Ali Wosoqul Eslam Wosoqi, chairman of Hizballah.
27. Esteemed Shaykh 'Ali 'Ahmad Fakur, chairman of Hazara Coordination Council.
28. Esteemed Karim Shadan, head of the Special Court.
29. Esteemed Major General Muhammad Asef Alam, general head of the Armed Forces High Court.
30. Esteemed Wasef Bakhtari, member of the Writers Union of the Republic of Afghanistan.
31. Esteemed Candidate Academician Professor Muhammad Rahim Elham, member of Academy of Science of the Republic of Afghanistan.
32. Esteemed Alhaj Shamsodin, ex-representative to Wolasi Jirga.
33. Esteemed Qari Muhammad Nabi, of the Pol-e Kheshti mosque.
34. Esteemed Mir 'Abdul Wahed Sadat, head of the Department of Legal Affairs of the Presidency.
35. Esteemed 'Abdul Bashir Baghlani, ex-justice minister.

36. Esteemed Farid Zarif, head of the International Affairs Section of the Presidency.
37. Esteemed Professor Dr. Wadir Safi, dean of the College of Law and Political Science.
38. Esteemed Fazullah Alburz, chairman of the Peasants Cooperative Union.
39. Esteemed Azam Rahnaward Zaryab, chairman of the Writers Union.
40. Esteemed Sawar Yuresh, head of the Press Department of the Presidency.
41. Esteemed Sultan Ahmad Ulomi, leader of Barekzay tribe.
42. Esteemed Candidate Academician Muhammad Sadiq Rohi, member of Science Academy.
43. Esteemed Muhammad Khan Menzay, leader of Menzay tribe.
44. Esteemed Abdullah Khetmadgar Bakhteyai, member of Science Academy.
45. Esteemed Asher Singh, religious headmaster of Baba Nanak school.
46. Esteemed Fazullah Khan Ansaf, chairman of the Society of Private Industry.
47. Esteemed Haji Abdullah Babak, a national businessman.
48. Esteemed Haji Muhammad Ewaz Badghisi, chairman of Badghis Enterprise.
49. Esteemed Eshan 'Ahmad Khoja, a national businessman.
50. Esteemed Argendas, chairman of Shina Enterprise.

(signed) Najibullah, president of Afghanistan.

Najibullah Speaks at 28 May Loya Jirga Session

LD2805153990 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] Kabul, 28 May (BAKHTAR)—Today, on 28 May, the Loya Jirga of the people of Afghanistan—the highest manifestation of the will of Afghans—opened in Kabul in the name of God, and in the hope of establishing nationwide peace in the country and implementing the national reconciliation policy.

The Loya Jirga, held under the chairmanship of President of Afghanistan esteemed Najibullah, began its work by listening to a few verses read from the holy Koran by Qari Barakatullah Salim. Then Attorney General Nezamuddin Tahzib presented a report by the Loya Jirga commission on elections and credentials. Loya Jirga members approved his report.

This Loya Jirga has been convened in accordance with Article 67 of the Constitution and Decree No. [word indistinct] by the president of Afghanistan in order to discuss amendments to the Constitution. It was attended by vice presidents, Meli Shura [National Assembly] chairmen and members, government members, the attorney general's deputies, the prosecutor general's deputies, Council of the Constitution chairman and deputies, National Front Executive Board members, the Kabul mayor and governors, elected representatives of the people, and outstanding national, political, and religious personalities of the country. The total number of participants in 772.

President of Afghanistan esteemed Najibullah then opened the work of the Loya Jirga with a short speech and wished the people of Afghanistan success from almighty God in establishing nationwide peace, national compromise, and an end to fratricide as soon as possible.

Esteemed Najibullah then introduced Esteemed 'Abdul Rahim Hatif, vice president and Loya Jirga deputy chairman, and wished the Loya Jirga success.

The Loya Jirga's first session then began under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman 'Abdul Rahim Hatif. Based on Article 70 of the Constitution the work procedures of the Loya Jirga were read out by Muhammad Azam Rahnawad Daryab. It was unanimously approved in four chapters and 27 articles. The Loya Jirga unanimously approved the proposed structure of the Secretariat and the agenda.

A BIA [BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY] correspondent reports that Esteemed Najibullah subsequently read out a report covering events during the last year and since the last Loya Jirga. He shed light on accelerating and deepening the national reconciliation policy, developments in the military and political situations in the country during the last year, and the tasks accomplished as set by the April-May 1989 Loya Jirga. He gave information on Afghanistan's efforts, measures and proposals aimed at finding a political solution and ending the war and bloodshed in the country.

Esteemed Najibullah also spoke on the importance of holding the Loya Jirga and the need to amend the Constitution in order to accelerate and deepen the national reconciliation policy and expand the foundation of democracy. He considers the Loya Jirga as an important and valuable step toward realizing the aspirations of the Afghan people. He believes it is in the highest interests of the country.

The president of Afghanistan noted the new proposed measures by the Republic of Afghanistan to achieve a political solution.

Based on the agenda of the Loya Jirga, discussion on the constitutional amendments began.

Najibullah Sends 'Fresh Proposals' to Superpowers

BK2805084890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0818 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] Kabul, May 28 (AFP)—President Najibullah said Monday [28 May] his government had sent fresh proposals on ending the Afghan conflict to U.S. and Soviet leaders for discussion at Wednesday's [30 May] superpower summit in Washington. The Kabul administration was prepared to stage a referendum on a package of proposals to end a civil war which has cost over a million lives since 1978, the president said.

Mr. Najibullah told a Grand National Assembly, or loya jirga, that both mujahidin guerrillas and government troops should observe a "cooling off period," clearing the way for a truce and elections under U.N. supervision. He also renewed a call for an international conference on Afghanistan including all countries directly and indirectly involved in the conflict. He did not name them.

"We have written to the American and Soviet presidents on the threshold of the summit so that they can take it up when they discuss the Afghanistan issue," Mr. Najibullah said. Under his proposal, he said, the warring factions could agree not to fire "certain types of weapons" during the cooling off period during which modalities could be worked out for staging nationwide elections. Mr. Najibullah said the militant factions need not give up territory under their control, while the government would have control of the armed forces. He also called for peace talks with mujahidin leaders based in Pakistan and their field commanders inside Afghanistan, guaranteeing them total security and anonymity if they wished it.

The president also made it clear that the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) did not intend to step down before a settlement was reached or an election held. "Ending the PDPA's monopoly on power does not mean we discard our ideals and policies. It also does not mean that someone else can take up the monopoly," he said.

The loya jirga is expected to rubber stamp fundamental constitutional changes introduced by Mr. Najibullah to allow political and economic pluralism in the country.

Hekmatyar Reportedly Rejects AIG Election Plan

BK2505131690 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 25 May 90 p 10

[Text] Peshawar, May 24—Engineer Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, Chief of Hezb-e-Eslami, Afghanistan (HIA) has outrightly rejected the new election formula of the six parties Peshawar based Afghan Interim Government [AIG] which was announced by the Chief Election Commissioner of the AIG, Pir Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani.

In a wireless message from inside Afghanistan, issued by the political department of HIA, here Thursday [24 May] Mr. Hekmatyar said "I am doubtful about the six parties election plan as I believe that they are not sincere in the formation of an elected Shura [council]".

He made it clear that neither HIA will participate nor accept any unelected Shura and stand firmly committed to its cherished demand of establishing a true Islamic Government in Afghanistan according to the aspirations of the Afghan nation. He said that the Afghan nation should be given the right to elect their true representatives and form an elected government.

Weapons, Ammunition Recovered in Paghman District

LD1905184790 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] The organs of the Ministry of State Security today carried out mopping-up operations in the surroundings of Paghman district in order to prevent extremists terrorist actions.

The BIA [BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY] military section reports that as a result of this operation 14 of plastic and trotyl type explosives, [word indistinct] rocket launcher, a quantity of machinegun ammunition, and 18 hand grenades were discovered and seized.

Armed Forces Seize Weapons in Andkhvoy District

LD2005195190 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1330 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Armed Forces units and companies carried out mopping up operations recently in some parts of Andkhvoy District, Jowzjan Province, to prevent terrorist actions by the armed extremist groups. BIA [BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY] military section reports that during these mopping-up operations 15 extremists were crushed and a machine gun, along with 10,000 of its shells, 55 rocket launcher shells, 30 recoilless gun shells, and 50 hand grenades were siezed.

Extremist Groups Clash; Weapons Seized

LD2505044490 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Kabul, May 23, BAKHTAR—Seven extremists from Gulbuddin fundamentalist groups were killed after severe arms clashes took place between Gulbuddin and Rabbani followers in Baraki Burak district, Lowgar Province and Char Bagh District of Laghman Province today, reported BAKHTAR correspondents.

During these clashes over 120 Gulbuddin men were disarmed and arrested.

Besides, the Mawlawi Khalis groups have attacked on one of the Wahhabi Sayyaf centres in Khugianay District, Nangarhar Province which resulted in killing 13 Sayyaf's men and their arms were set ablaze.

According to another report, the organs of the Ministry of State Security have bought today 13 ground-to-ground rockets of Sacker-20-30 [SAKR] types, an amount of explosives as well as a large amount of various kinds of bullets from oppositions in Khak-e Jabbar area of Kabul Province.

Recent Fighting in Provinces Detailed

LD2505155190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Units and subunits of the Armed Forces stationed in Nangarhar Province are engaged in strengthening and consolidating their previous and newly seized positions by pushing back the warmongers.

Some of the subunits, for the purpose of broadening the defensive lines, carried out mopping-up operations on 20 May, starting from (Chenagh-e) Hada village in the direction of Dasht-e Gholamjan, as a result of which they broadened the defensive area of the forces and seized several key positions; they took position in a better line south of Dasht-e Gholamjan.

Citing a competent source of the Armed Forces the BAKHTAR military section reported that the armed extremists, Wahhabi mercenaries and Pakistani militarists during the past three days carried out intermittent heavy firing on the security posts of Samarkhel garrison, Behsud, Kan-o Qatraghay and a number of residential regions. In retaliation against these actions, the firing positions and defensive points of the enemy were put under artillery and air strikes as a result of which 36 men from the joint enemy forces were put out of action and several of their weapons, machine guns, two mortars, and three rocket launchers were destroyed; and five hideouts, 50 recoilless shells, two boxes of various kinds of ammunition for light weapons, 10 mortar shells, and 80 enemy missiles were seized. As a result of the enemy fire, four personnel of the subunits and one civilian were injured.

The units and subunits are discharging their duties with high morale.

Units and companies of the Armed Forces stationed in Khowst District enjoy high combat readiness and are ready to foil any type of possible attack by the enemy. During the last three days, Pakistani agents have fired heavy weapons on a number of the residential areas in Yaqubi and security posts located around Khowst city.

In order to foil the attacks by the warmongers attached to Pakistan, their positions were subjected to retaliatory attacks by the units and companies, as a result of which 19 enemies of the people's peace and tranquillity were ousted from combat ranks during the last three days, and five mortars, two rocket launchers, and six light weapons belonging to them were destroyed.

According to another report the armed extremists, Saudi Wahhabis and Pakistani militarists fired sporadically on the residential areas and security posts in Qandahar Province and Kalat city during the last three days. The units and companies replied to these attacks, as a result of which eight foreign agents were ousted from combat ranks. As a result of enemy fire, two local people were injured. The units and companies in Qandahar Province carry out their national and patriotic duties with high combat spirit.

The personnel of the state security ministry in Laghman Province carried out an ambush yesterday alongside the supply route of the extremists and captured a number of them. A large number of rockets and various types of weapons and ammunition were siezed. In the course of this ambush nine extremists were crushed and six of them, along with 14 shells of Sakr-30, 70 artillery rocket launcher shells and 35 cases of Zk-1 and Kalashinkov shells were confiscated.

State Security Ministry personnel discovered today 25 kg trotyl type explosives and prevented an unfortunate incident by the extremists.

The BAKHTAR military section reports that these explosives were planted in a crowded part in Kabul city Ward 9 by the extremists in order to slaughter our Muslim and religious people.

The personnel of the Ministry of Interior criminal investigation department yesterday discovered and siezed 60 kg of trotyl type explosive in some parts of the district of Dehsaz. The BAKHTAR military section reports that these explosives were planted and hidden in this district by the extremists in order to organize an explosion in Kabul city. The explosive was discovered and taken away in time with the all-round co-operation of the local people.

Three Killed in Kabul Rocket Attack 25 May

LD2505161590 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] When extremists fired 26 surface-to-surface missiles which hit the residential districts of Kabul city three of our Muslim and religious compatriots were martyred and five others were injured.

BAKHTAR's military section reports that those injured were quickly transferred to hospitals where they are under intensive care. The missiles were fired from the west and northeast and hit wards 3, 5, and 10 of Kabul city. These missiles also caused material damage.

Attacks Continue

BK2605142290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1414 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Kabul, May 26 (AFP)—The Afghan resistance Saturday [26 May] kept up a rocket barrage on Kabul as authorities tightened security here ahead of a grand national assembly to adopt constitutional changes. The mujahidin guerrillas fired at least 16 rockets on Kabul within a six hour period early Saturday, an official said, adding that four people died and 14 were wounded in the attacks.

Heavy pounding of the city has continued from last week and the government has responded over about the last three days by firing heavy artillery and using aerial attacks on guerrilla positions, diplomats and officials here said. Increased activity by Afghan airforce bombers over Kabul and surrounding areas has been observed in the past two days.

Government troops armed with rocket propelled grenade launchers, heavy machine guns and automatic assault rifles have been deployed at strategic points in the capital while more tanks and armoured personnel carries are seen on the roads here. Security has been tightened at the Kabul Hotel where provincial deputies attending the assembly are staying. More soldiers have been placed outside the hotel and all visitors, except foreign journalists, are searched for weapons.

Officials said Saturday's rockets hit the Kabul University area and the residential district of Khair Khana. At least 26 rockets hit Kabul Friday [25 May], killing three and wounding five.

The government is yet to announce the date of the loya jirga or grand national assembly which is expected to approve changes to the 1987 Constitution allowing political and economic pluralism in the war-torn country. At least three out of the 30 provinces will not be directly represented at the loya jirga because those areas are under mujahidin control, senior government officials said. The guerrillas, who see President Najibullah as a puppet of the Soviet Union, have refused to have anything to do with the present administration.

Six Killed, 11 Injured

LD2605165290 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] As a result of launching 22 U.S.-made [as heard] surface-to-surface missiles today, the extremists martyred six Kabul citizens and injured another 11 persons, including women and children.

The BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY military section reported the injured persons were quickly transferred to the hospitals, where they are under intensive care.

The missiles were from cluster and SAKR-type missiles, launched from west and northeastern directions. They hit residential wards 3, 4, 5, 10, and 11.

Launching these missiles also caused material losses. The mines scattered from these missiles were neutralized by the security personnel.

India

Pakistani Convoys Said Leaving Nuclear Complex

BK2705124890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] In Pakistan, armed convoys are reportedly heading for military airfields leaving the top secret nuclear weapon complex at Kahuta near Islamabad. The SUNDAY TIMES quoting American intelligence sources in Washington reports from London that special racks designed to carry nuclear bombs fitted to F-16 fighter bombers are also on the move.

Spokesman Comments

BK2805160090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] An official spokesman in New Delhi said today that India has taken due note of newspaper reports indicating that Pakistan is deploying nuclear arms. The spokesman made these remarks when newsmen drew his attention to the reports.

Minister: PRC To Sell Missiles to Pakistan

BK2905103990 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] The minister of state for defense, Dr. Raja Ramanna, assured the upper house today that the government will consider all developments affecting our security and update plans to maintain full defense preparedness. In a written reply, he said the government has seen media reports saying that China is planning to sell major ballistic missiles to Pakistan. Dr. Ramanna said there is, however, no confirmed information on this so far.

Spokesman Denies Bhutto Remarks on 'Agents'

BK2505145890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] An External Affairs Ministry spokesman in New Delhi today refuted the reported statement by the Pakistani prime minister that Indian agents are indulging in sabotage in Sindh. He said the allegation is entirely false and baseless. The spokesman was speaking to newsmen when his attention was drawn to the press reports. He said the Pakistani prime minister's statement appears to be a tactic designed to divert attention away from that country's blatant and continuing interference in India's internal affairs.

External Minister Rules Out Intervention in Fiji

BK2505160290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, has ruled out any intervention by India in Fiji over the closure of the Indian embassy in Suva. Giving clarifications on points raised by members on his statement in the Rajya Sabha, the minister said it is never our intention to interfere in the internal affairs of any country. He said India will continue to support the democratic movement in Fiji and at the same time will oppose racial discrimination. Mr. Gujral said we will take every opportunity to raise the issue at the international fora and mobilize world opinion against the abhorrent policies of the illegal regime in Fiji. The minister disclosed that New Delhi is in touch with several governments and discussed the issue with Australia and New Zealand which are influential in the region.

'Outlawed' Kashmir Leader Criticizes Bhutto

BK2805162390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] The self-styled leader of the outlawed Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, Amanullah Khan, has said that Pakistan has no locus standi on Kashmir and there was never any question at any stage of its becoming a part of Pakistan. Addressing a news conference in Rawalpindi today, he criticized the Pakistani prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, for her stand on Kashmir, saying that it is unfounded.

AIR [All India Radio] Islamabad correspondent reports that Amanullah Khan confirmed that the Kashmiri subversives are receiving military training, but refused to give the exact place of training.

Kashmir Governor Jag Mohan Submits Resignation

BK2505145290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir governor, Mr. Jag Mohan, has resigned. Raj Bhavan [governor house] sources in Srinagar said that Mr. Jag Mohan has submitted his resignation. There is, however, no official announcement about the acceptance so far. Earlier, Mr. Jag Mohan met the union home minister, Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, in New Delhi today.

The Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] has criticized the government for its reported decision to recall the governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Mr. Jag Mohan. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi today, the party president, Mr. L.K. Advani, described the decision as a monumental blunder. It will send wrong signal not only to the militants but also to all those who support secessionism and Pakistan. He said the government has acted under various pressures and added that a kid glove approach will not solve the complicated problem in Kashmir. The BJP chief disclosed that he has conveyed his party's unhappiness to the prime minister when he met him this morning. Mr. Advani made it clear that there is however no proposal to withdraw support to the National Front government on this matter. The party general secretary, Mr. Kedar Nath Sahni, who was also present, announced that he has resigned from the advisory committee on Kashmir affairs.

Replacement Named

BK2505161490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 May 90

[Excerpt] Mr. Girish Chandra Saxena will be the new governor of Jammu and Kashmir. He has been appointed in place of Mr. Jag Mohan, who has resigned. A Rashtrapati Bhavan [president house] communique issued in New Delhi this evening said that the resignation of Mr. Jag Mohan has been accepted.

The All India Radio correspondent reports that the development followed the controversy over the role of Mr. Jag Mohan which led to acrimonious debates in parliament this week. Mr. Jag Mohan later expressed the view that he accepted the offer of the post of governor because he loved the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He felt that he did his best to restore normalcy in the state. However, because of the controversy over his role he had decided to resign as he would not want to become an obstacle in bringing the people of Jammu and Kashmir to the mainstream of life.

The new incumbent, Mr. Girish Chandra Saxena, an officer of the IPS [Indian Police Service] cadre from Uttar Pradesh had served several important assignments, including two diplomatic assignments abroad. Mr. G.C. Saxena, presently adviser to the prime minister on Punjab and Kashmir affairs, had also served as security adviser to the prime minister in 1988. He was also the chief of the Research and Analysis Wing of the government of India. [passage omitted]

New Governor Comments

BK2605033490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] The newly-appointed governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Mr. Girish Chandra Saxena, has said that his first priority will be to restore peace and normalcy in the valley with the cooperation and goodwill of the people. Shortly after his appointment, Mr. Saxena told PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA] that his efforts will be to enable people of the state to exercise freely their full democratic rights enshrined in the Constitution.

The situation in the Kashmir valley is peaceful, and no untoward incident has been reported since yesterday. Curfew has been relaxed in Srinagar for nine hours from 0800 this morning. However, there will be no relaxation in Chanpura area and the areas under the jurisdiction of the police stations of Soura, Nauhata, Khaniad, Rainawadi, Safkadal, and Maharajganj.

Meanwhile, the resignation of Mr. Jag Mohan has evoked spontaneous protests in Jammu, Udhampur, and Kathua towns yesterday. Shops and business establishments were closed and people took out processions protesting against the center's decision.

The minister for Kashmir affairs, Mr. George Fernandes, has called upon the militants to join in a dialogue and help find a peaceful solution to the prevailing situation in Kashmir. He asked them not to do anything that would expose civilian population to any kind of injury, physical or otherwise. In a message to the family of the late Mirwaiz Maulvi Farooq, Mr. Fernandes said that he and Maulvi Farooq had agreed to meet in Srinagar on Sunday last [20 May] during his visit to Kashmir, but the meeting could not take place following his assassination.

In his condolence message, the prime minister, Mr. Vishawanath Pratap Singh, said the services of Maulvi Farooq will be long remembered in the Kashmir valley.

Strike, Violence Reported

BK2605125690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1243 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Jammu, India, May 26 (AFP)—Police shot and wounded 13 people to quell violence that erupted here Saturday [26 May] during a general strike called by Hindus to protest the resignation of Jag Mohan as Kashmir's governor, witnesses said. Police opened fire when groups of Hindus and Muslims attacked each other during the strike, which crippled this Hindu-majority winter capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir state, and fought security forces.

The strike, which got underway at midday Friday [25 May] shortly after Mr. Jag Mohan stepped down, was called by the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the militant Hindu Shiv Sena to protest his removal. The administrator with a reputation for toughness quit after coming under a barrage of criticism for Monday's massacre of an estimated 100 Muslims during a funeral procession of Mirwaiz Maulvi Farooq, the head priest of Kashmir. The Kashmir administration, however, says only 10 people died when security forces opened fire on the marchers after they did not disperse despite a hastily-imposed curfew.

Saturday's violence erupted when Muslims stoned slogan-shouting pro-BJP demonstrators as they passed through the District of Khatcan Talab, triggering pitched street battles. The police opened fire after failing to disperse the clashing Hindus and Muslims with tear gas and cane charges, witnesses said. Hindu mobs also torched a police jeep elsewhere in Jammu, police said. The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said that the marchers shouted slogans against Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who replaced Mr. Jag Mohan with his own advisor on the Kashmir affair, Girish Chandra Saxena.

Similar anti-government protests were also reported from the Hindu-majority towns of Udhampur, Kathua, Samba, Reasi and Katra in Jammu region, PTI said.

Police and paramilitary troops immediately moved into "sensitive places" in Jammu city to prevent further violence, the news agency added. The general strike shut shops and businesses, hotels, schools and colleges, while both private and government transport went off the roads here. Attendance in state government offices was reported to be poor.

No further details of the violence were available, but Chamal Lal Gupta, who heads the BJP chapter here, described the strike as "a complete success". The BJP, a pro-Hindu party which extends crucial support to the federal National Front government in New Delhi, has called the government's decision to replace Mr. Jag Mohan a "monumental blunder". The BJP's Jammu and Kashmir chapter Saturday asked the party to withdraw support to the federal government and warned of sustained protests if New Delhi opened talks with Muslim separatists fighting to secede Kashmir from India. Negotiations with the militants would not be "tolerated by both the BJP and the people of Jammu," Mr. Gupta told a news conference.

Mr. Jag Mohan, who arrived here late Friday after resigning, visited a Hindu temple Saturday and would return to New Delhi in the night, officials said.

Also Saturday, a similar shutdown crippled Muslim-majority Srinagar for the sixth day to protest Monday's assassination of the mirwaiz by three young men. Residents and officials reached by phone from here said life was crippled in Srinagar and 26 other major Muslim towns of the Kashmir Valley, where the Muslim campaign for independence is centred. The general strike in Srinagar was part of the nine-day mourning called by the Awami Action Committee, which the slain mirwaiz headed, and Muslim militant groups to protest his killing.

Nearly 600 people have died so far this year in the Kashmir separatist campaign, which India alleges is backed by Pakistan. India and Pakistan dispute Kashmir and have fought two wars over it.

Situation Updated

BK2605162690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Mr. Girish Chandra Saxena has taken over as the governor of Jammu and Kashmir. He was administered the oath of office and secrecy by the chief justice of Jammu and Kashmir high court, Mr. Justice (S.S. Kant), in Srinagar this evening.

Earlier, the outgoing governor, Mr. Jag Mohan was given a warm send off at Jammu airport, before his departure for Delhi today.

Jammu city and almost all towns in Jammu division observed a complete bundh [strike] today, in protest against the resignation of Mr. Jag Mohan from the post of the governor of Jammu and Kashmir state. All shops and business establishments in Jammu city, barring medicine stalls remained closed. Public transport was off the road. Many people took out processions and organized demonstrations in front of the offices of the Congress-I and the National Conference.

According to official sources, police had to fire one warning shot in the air to disperse a mob in Shahidi Chowk area of the city. The call for the bundh was given by the state unit of the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party]. The president of the state unit of the BJP, Professor Chaman Lal Gupta, told newsmen in Jammu that the working committee of the pradesh [state] BJP has urged the central leadership of the party to withdraw the party's support to the National Front government at the center. Several other political and social organizations in the state have also criticized the change of the governor at, what they called, a critical period. The state secretary of the Communist Party of India-Marxist, Mr. Mohammad

Yousuf Tarigami, has described the statements made by some Jammu organizations over the resignation of Mr. Jag Mohan as vicious propaganda of communal elements.

In the Kashmir Valley, the security forces today seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition in the five-km border belt in Uti sector, believed to be the biggest cache so far. It included two light machine guns, two rocket launchers, 12 rockets, 42 pistols, 200 hand grenades, and a large quantity of ammunition. The cache also included 127 audio cassettes of subversive and anti-India propaganda.

Singh on Bofors Deal, Kashmir, Punjab Issues

BK2605161390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] India has sought the permission of the Swedish Government to make public the report of the National Audit Bureau on the Bofors gun deal. This was disclosed by the prime minister in an informal chat with newsmen on board the aircraft, while returning to New Delhi without fulfilling his scheduled Kerala engagements today because of bad weather. He said the National Front government wanted to table in Parliament the report which included some withheld secret portions. But, the Swedish authorities while handing over the report had requested to keep it as secret.

On Kashmir, the prime minister said the diplomatic initiative by India in explaining its stand to the world on the issue has yielded good results. Asked whether there is a threat of war between India and Pakistan, Mr. Singh said the ball is in Pakistan's court. He described as totally untrue the allegation by the Pakistan prime minister that the Indian agents are responsible for creating disturbances in the Sindh province. He said Pakistan just cannot blame anyone only because it cannot control the situation in Sindh.

In reply to a question, Mr. Singh said Mr. Jag Mohan has resigned as the governor of Jammu and Kashmir on his own accord. He denied that any pressure was put on the government to recall him from the state. He said the resignation of Mr. Jag Mohan, who had to work in a different situation should be been seen in the overall context.

On Punjab, the prime minister said the government would like to hold elections of the state assembly even before the expiry of the extension of President's rule in November.

About the price situation, Mr. Singh said though there has not been any dramatic fall in the prices of essential commodities, there has been a check in the rise of prices.

The prime minister has also canceled his scheduled visit to Lakshadweep tomorrow, where he was to have inaugurated the pradesh [regional] council at Kavarati.

12, Including Six Terrorists, Killed in Punjab

BK2705162790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] In Punjab, 12 persons, including six terrorists, have been killed in separate incidents since last night. According to an official spokesman two hardcore terrorists, Kashmir Singh and Sukhdev, committed suicide by consuming poison when chased by police in Jabal area of Amritsar District. Another hardcore terrorist Jaspal Singh committed suicide in village Bakhta in Bhatinda District. The spokesman said two terrorists were killed in an encounter with the security forces in (Bhinwa) area of Kapurthala early this morning and one terrorist was gunned down by a rival gang in Dharewal area in Amritsar District.

Elsewhere in the state, terrorists shot dead six persons, including a woman.

'Pakistan-Trained Terrorists' Killed in Kashmir

BK2905093590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 May 90

[Text] In the Kashmir Valley, six Pakistan-trained terrorists were killed and four arrested in an encounter with the security forces in the five-km border belt last night. These terrorists, while returning from Pak-occupied Kashmir, were challenged by the security forces. A big quantity of arms and ammunition were recovered from the group.

Meanwhile, the situation is peaceful in Srinagar city and other towns of the Kashmir Valley. Curfew has been relaxed in Srinagar for 12 hours from 0500 this morning. Government offices and banks are functioning normally.

Iran

Editorial Calls Baghdad Arab Summit 'Alarming'

LD2705203290 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 27 May 90

["Paper Says Baghdad Conference May Betray Muslims—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA—The English daily 'TEHRAN TIMES' said in an editorial Sunday [27 May] that the summit conference by the Arab heads of state in Baghdad Monday [28 May] is 'alarming.' It said "the imperialists through their strategem are trying hard to prepare the grounds for the expanison of the Camp David agreement.

The editorial said in part:

"Twenty seven years ago when leader of the Islamic revolution Imam Khomeyni made a historic speech he kept the Zionist regime on the top of the objectives of this great movement. The speech which Imam Khomeyni made before Khordad 15 [5 June], 1963 which led to the suppression and massacre of the people by the shah's regime, was the first step in an incessant and lengthy struggle against the Israeli regime... "The shah sent a secret message to the imam (in June 1963) in which he urged him not to speak about Israel. One can understand how touchy the pro-American regime was on Israel which had diplomatic relations with the monarchial regime in Tehran...

"Unfortunately, most of the Arab rulers are still following the same policy which is one that has been framed by the U.S. and British imperialists...

"Plots are hatched by the U.S. and Britain to divide the Arab rulers in the name of moderates, radicals and so on. The objective of such plots is just one, that is to lessen the hostility against Israel. Of course there is a pressure from common Arabs which bars Arab rulers from recognition of the Zionist regime. If this was not so, the Israeli flag would have by now been flagging over most capitals of the Arab Muslim countries...

"The forthcoming Arab summit in Baghdad and the reports coming from the Iraqi capital are alarming. The imperialists through their strategems are trying hard to prepare grounds for the expansion of the Camp David accord...

"It is a sensitive thing. The plots are deep. These are sinisterly camouflaged traps if, God forbid, the imperialists succeed the entire Muslim ummah and particularly Palestinians can fall victim to these...

"We urge the Palestinians, particularly and Muslim Arabs in general to keep their eyes open and never allow the treachery of their rulers to drag them into compromises which will be the undoing of the Muslims and the ummah of the entire world."

Security Council Discusses 'Second' Iraqi Letter

LD2605191890 Tehran IRNA in English 1732 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 26, IRNA—The Supreme National Security Council met here Saturday [26 May] under the chairmanship of President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and dicussed the Iraqi Government's second letter to Iran.

The Council also listened to comprehensive reports offered by Iranian diplomatic representatives to the U.N. and its European headquarters on the trend of the talks on Resolution 598.

At the Security Council meeting, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed the need for pursuing and further activating the peace talks through the UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Editorial Comments on Iraqi Letter, Proposals

NC2605132390 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 14 May 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Saddam's Letter"]

[Text] Although the contents of the Iraqi president's recent letter to Iranian leaders have not been disclosed, but it is understood from what has been said by the officials of the two countries, that Saddam Husayn wants direct talks between himself and Iran's top ranking authorities. The Iraqi leader is said to have proposed Saudi Arabia as the site of the direct negotiations.

President Saddam Husayn had sent a similar letter to Iranian leaders last year but under those circumstances it was simply ignored by the Islamic Republic.

It is said that in his recent letter, Saddam has mentioned the West's hostility with the Muslim states as well as the Soviet Jewish influx to the occupied Palestine as a common problem of the Arab and Muslim countries, and then raised his demands regarding the Iraq-Iran conflict.

It is also heard in some Iranian circles that PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat too has sent a letter to Iranian leaders in which he has stressed the need for Muslim unity to counter the Jewish immigration to Palestine. He has also called on Muslims to settle their issues themselves.

There are two views or possibilities about Saddam's letter. First to consider it a new peace maneuver to counter Iran's peace-seeking efforts. Then no one could term it an initiative. Proposing Saudi Arabia which has no diplomatic relations with Iran, is a clear evidence that such negotiations would be impossible to take place. Another factor strengthening this idea is the Baghdad regime's records over the past eight years. But if Saddam followed merely propaganda goals, why didn't he launch any propaganda campaign—at least in the stage of sending the letter?

The second assumption is to take Baghdad's new proposals seriously. Such an interpretation would require to take the Iraq-West conflict seriously, too. But such an assumption seems to be unrealistic in a world of realities.

At the same time, one should not overlook the real intentions of Saddam Husayn and afterwards, of Yasir 'Arafat. Saddam invaded the Islamic Republic only two years after the Revolution and at a time that it had still not strengthened its pillars and while Iran's opposition to the U.S. and Israel had reached its peak (the U.S. hostages' crisis in Iran). He later compromised with the U.S. and its most dependent satellites in the region, that is Jordan, Egypt and even Israel.

To consider the West and Israel as a common enemy of Iran and Iraq would only be an exaggeration. In other words, there are no principled conflicts between the U.S. and the Zionist regime to require some kind of cooperation between Iraq and Iran.

There is another approach to Saddam's letter which seems to be more realistic. It views the letter as something beyond a mere political-propaganda maneuver but not the only way left to Saddam.

This outlook is based on a particular analysis of the West-Iraq confrontation as well as on the developments in the foreign relations of Tehran and Baghdad over the past one or two years. After accepting the Security Council Resolution 598 and establishment of the ceasefire, Iran began to normalize its diplomatic and economic relation with other countries. This diplomatic move by Iran, though it was slow and fluctuating, turned the international pressure lever used by Iraq as an offensive means against Iran, to a defensive weapon and diminished its effectiveness.

On the other hand, expansion of Iran's ties with certain countries especially the Soviet Union persuaded it to take advantage of an international pressure on Iraq. Of course, the Islamic Republic's efforts won it little success because Western countries and the United States not only restrained from putting pressure on Saddam but practically supported him. Arab states, too, despite their illogical and occasional disputes with the Iraqi regime, showed indifference to Tehran's peace struggle with Baghdad because of the tension existing in Iran's relations with certain important regional states. To this end, Arab states located on the southern coasts of the Persian Gulf cite the severance of ties between Tehran and Riyadh as their main difficulty in getting closer to Iran. These countries seem to be aware of the fact that they, too, should put pressure on Saudi Arabia to soften its conditions for the participation of Iranian Muslims in the hajj pilgrimage.

Iran's efforts to mend relations with the West and regional countries, which will naturally strengthen its diplomatic lever for pressing Iraq, has been coupled with a strain in Baghdad's ties with the West. As already mentioned, such contradictions should be considered neither principal nor unimportant.

The recent problems between Iraq and the West are real but not fundamental and will finally lead to the stability of Iraq's position in the Western camp.

With such an attitude it seems that Iraq is not optimistic towards the future of the peace talks under supervision of the U.N. Secretary General and that it is also concerned about the continuation of the West's support for it.

This feeling of weakness has forced Iraqi rulers to seek solutions outside the framework of the Resolution 598. In their opinion, while they are apparently holding the upper hand, direct talks would be in their interest.

This does not mean that the Westerners have stopped siding with Iraq but indicates that Western countries regard their backing of Baghdad not as absolute but as conditional. The conclusion that can be drawn is that Tehran by taking advantage of and adding fuel to Baghdad's conflict with the West—however unimportant they [as published] may be—can strip Baghdad of international or in other words of the West's support and cause a separation between Western countries and Iraq.

If this purpose is attained even relatively, Iraq's pressure levers against Iran in the peace negotiations, whether within or outside the context of Resolution 598, would be weakened and the ground would be prepared for the Islamic Republic to achieve its goals.

The issue of the Arvand River (Shatt al-Arab) and the 1975 Algiers accord is still a hurdle in the talks betwen the two countries, and if Iraq continues to insist on its irrational stance—something which is likely—the new trend too would most probably fail. It will at the same time prove that the Iraqis are still lacking in good will essential to establishing a durable peace.

Funds Disagreement Said To Block Hostage Release

PM2505153890 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 24 May 90 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "Differences Over Funds and Weapons Stopped Hostages' Release"]

[Text] Beirut, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Lebanese sources familiar with the subject of the Western hostages in Beirut have revealed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the process of releasing the hostages stopped after U.S.-Iranian contacts faltered in Geneva.

The sources said that the contacts faltered because of a disagreement over priorities between Tehran and Washington, specifically over returning the Iranian funds frozen in the United States.

The sources added that the American side expressed willingness to return these funds, but at different times—that is, in stages, as though its objective were to keep Iranian policy under control at this stage.

The sources pointed out that the Iranian side demanded that the major part of these funds be returned in the form of weapons and spare parts, but the American side refused.

The sources said: The U.S. refusal to supply Iran with weapons and spare parts is attributable primarily to the atmosphere of mistrust between the two sides and to Washington's total dissatisfaction with the current situation in Tehran.

The sources added: Washington seems determined not to take any step likely to facilitate Iran's restoration as a power to be reckoned with. Perhaps this is attributable to the withdrawal of the Soviet threat, which in the past justified the process of supplying the Iranian regime with advanced weapons.

The sources believe that the U.S. Administration is seeking to secure the Western hostages' release at the lowest possible cost. And it is postponing the "major steps" until it is satisfied that the entire situation is controlled by those whom it describe as "moderates."

The sources pointed out that a new element has been added to the picture, namely, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's letter to Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, which constitutes an attempt to settle the dispute outside the negotiations led by the United Nations, which has been unable to achieve tangible results.

The sources described the huge damages sustained by the Iranian Cultural Section building during recent Amal-Hizballah clashes in West Beirut as "a message which must be pondered to analyze its content."

The sources regard the reports of the possibile release of Western hostages on the eve of the Arab summit to be held in Baghdad on 28 May as mere rumors. The question, the sources said, is more complex than many people think.

President on Lebanese Situation, Hostage Issue

LD2705114890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 May 90

[Excerpt] Today, at a gathering of the families of Lebanese martyrs and POW's, who have come to Tehran to take part in the ceremonies marking the anniversary of the death of Imam Khomeyni, the great leader of the Islamic revolution, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani praised the Muslim people of Lebanon for their bravery and struggles.

He said that the fates of the people of Iran and Lebanon are entwined, because they follow Islam and are inspired by the Koran. he added: Today Lebanon is a big arena in which Islam and the Koran have issued an ultimatum to the world of oppression, arrogance, and Zionism. The people of Lebanon follow god's great path in their struggles. Today, news from Lebanon is reported by the world's mass media. That is thanks to the bravery shown by the people of Lebanon under extremely difficult conditions. The people of Lebanon are confronted with an oppressor and illegitimate neighbor, that is Israel, on their borders, and the Phalangist minority inside their country.

He added: By occupying parts of southern Lebanon, Israel has proved that she has expansionist intentions and wishes to implement Israel's prime objective. Were it not for the resistance of the people of Lebanon, Israel would have attained her cursed goal years ago. However, thanks to the bravery of the Muslim offspring of Lebanon, today Israel is like a storm beating against hard cliffs.

Referring to misleading Western propaganda about events in Lebanon, he said: The events occurring in Lebanon nowadays have neutralized all the adverse propaganda. The Westerners go on about condemning terrorism, but have committed the worst kind of terrorism themselves. They shout about democracy, but they deprive the majority of the people of Lebanon—that is the Muslims of that country—of their rights, and try to bring the Phalangist minority to power. They criticize hostage-taking, but they do not condemn Israel for taking hostages.

Referring to the fact that the children of Lebanon released two American hostages on their own initiative and thus disgraced America and arrogance, he said: Today arrogance should defend itself and tell world public opinion why it does not release the Lebanese hostages and why it makes no effort to secure the release of the Iranian, Lebanese, and Palestinian hostages. They must answer whether human rights only apply to them, and why they do not allow human rights for the oppressed people of the world.

He added: They stress the independence of nations and the security of borders, but they have not responded to the occupation of Palestinian lands by the Zionists.

He pointed out: The forces of four Western countries landed in Lebanon, but thanks to the martyrdom-seeking of the children of Lebanon, they were defeated and forced to leave Lebanon.

Addressing the families of Lebanese martyrs and POW's he said: Through jihad [holy war], patience, and perseverence you will attain freedom and bring the rule of Islam to your country. You should know that, as the Islamic Republic of Iran stood alongside you during the war, she will defend your fundamental stands with all her might today and will stand alongside you. Today you know full well that those proclaiming to defend Islam and the Arab peoples stand alongside Michel 'Awn and the Phalangists and against the Muslims. [passage omitted]

British Efforts 'Doomed' Without Policy Change

LD2705112790 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA—Two Persian dailies on Sunday [27 May] commented on the British new efforts to restore ties with the Islamic Republic and said they are doomed to fail if London aims to use Iran's influence to secure release of the Lebanese-held British hostages or the life of the apostate Salman Rushdie. The dailies were referring to a recent proposal by a British parliamentary group to send an uninvited delegation to Iran which has been supported by Britain's Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

The Persian daily 'ABRAR' said in its editorial "if the British efforts for resumption of political ties with Iran are launched with the sole aim to encourage the Islamic Republic to use its influence on the Lebanese Muslim combatants to secure release of the British hostages, it must be said that such efforts will be fruitless."

"As far as this matter is concerned and also with respect to a Majles bill passed last year on Tehran-London ties, it seems that the delegation will not be able to make the trip."

The Iranian Majles in a bill last year ruled out resumption of ties with London as long as it does not change its policy of disrespect for Islam and the Islamic sanctities. The bill was passed in the aftermath of publication of the blasphemous novel 'The Satanic Verses' by the Indian-born British author Salman Rushdie.

The paper believed "any contact or negotiation will be pending London's reconsidering of its official stance vis-a-vis The Satanic Verses and correcting its past policy (towards Islam and Islamic sanctities)."

It concluded, "establishment of contacts or conducting any negotiation before accepting the Majles conditions are useless and thus resumption of ties impossible."

Meanwhile, the other daily 'JOMHURI ESLAMI' said in an inside page commentary that London's efforts are doomed if they are directed to secure Salman Rushdie's life, a move which serves a dual purpose. First, Britain will no longer need to abandon its hostile policies against Islam, second, it will have restored its ties with Tehran.

The commentary added, "sending of a fact-finding team (to Tehran) can solve London's problem only if the delegation is ready to listen to the logical stands of the Islamic Republic without any pre-judgement."

"In the next stage," it continued, "London should allow itself to adapt to the existing realities and make up for its past mistakes."

The paper said in conclusion "England has only one option for improvement of ties with the Islamic world's center of gravity—to give a positive response to demands of over one billion Muslims the world over."

The world Muslims have overwhelmingly supported the late Imam Khomeini's Fatwa (religious verdict) that the apostate Rushdie must be executed.

'Direct Talks' Call 'To Bow Down' to U.S.

NC2505123190 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian
29 Apr 90 pp 1,2

[Mehdi Nasiri commentary: "What is the Message of 'Direct Talks'?"]

[Text] One step backward vis-a-vis the murmurs and the ideas that call on the officials and the people to deviate from the principles of Imam Khomeyni will undoubtedly mean the burial of all the fruits of the revolution in the future.

The message conveyed by "Direct Talks" which was published on page 2 of ETTELA'AT on 26 April 1990 was nothing but a call to give up the revolution and the principle of "fighting against arrogance" and to bow down before America and the West.

This article blatantly calls on the people and the officials to carry out a profitable transaction—in the view of the author—with America and the West so that they will not regret lost opportunities and so that they will turn their back on the aspirations of the imam and the revolution and lean on the great satan.

From the point of view of the author of "Direct Talks," the Iranian nation will gain the following from this deal:
1. Resolution 598 will be implemented with the support of America, the most influential member of the Security Council.
2. Iran's frozen assets and spare parts will be returned to the country.
3. The Muslims who have been taken hostage in Lebanon by pro- American and pro-Israeli groups will be released with the help of America and Israel.
4. With this deal, we will apparently replace the Iraqi regime as servants to the United States and will become a valuable American pawn in the field of diplomacy.
5. Direct talks with America will help us to carry out our reconstruction successfully and to start a comfortable life under the domination and diktat of America.

However, the article "Direct Talks" does not refer to the prices that Islamic Iran should pay in order to gain all these. This may be because the author may also be unaware of them. At any rate, it is deemed necessary to point these out and to state what prices will be paid.
1. Completely putting aside the imam's line in the political, economic, cultural, moral, and social fields.
2. Accepting the rule of corruption.
3. Trampling on the blood of hundreds of thousands of martyrs who gave their lives for divine and Islamic objectives and for the fight against oppression and arrogance.
4. Apologizing to America and to the West and promising not to do and say what we have been saying for more than 10 years.
5. Finally, destroying a movement and a revolution which manifest the rule of nations throughout the world and which pave the way for the world revolution of the mahdi [the hidden imam], may God expedite his advent.

In answer to the remarks and writings by those who support compromise and transaction with America, THE WASHINGTON TIMES of America writes:

"The Bush administration should never come to terms with Iran because Iran is the legacy of Ayatollah Khomeyni and is being ruled by his heirs."

The newspaper continues by warning America about changing its stand and writes:

"Any act, step, or remark which does not reflect indifference will be interpreted as America's surrender."

THE WASHINGTON TIMES article clarifies the nature and result of the talks and transactions proposed by those who support relations with the United States far better than any logic or reasoning. Therefore, there is no the need for any further comment or analysis.

But let us see what the stand of the great leader of the Islamic revolution, His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, was on relations with America. His eminence stated:
—I have repeatedly warned that relations with America and its ilk are relations between an oppressed nation and world-devourers.
—We will fight against America until we die.
—Direct all your shouts at America.
—All our ills are from America.
—America is the head of international world-devourers.
—The Iranian nation will stand before America and, God willing, it will be the victor.

Also, the worthy successor of the great imam, the leader of the Islamic revolution, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, has stated:

"After the regime occupying Jerusalem, the American government is the most despicable government in the eyes of the Iranian nation, and as long as America bases its policy on lies, deceits, and treacheries and supports the despicable Zionist regime and continues to oppress the oppressed countries of the world, there is no possibility of talks and relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and America."

We should also refer to the remarks by the respectable president on 'Id al-Fitr. Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani pointed out in his meeting with the leader of the revolution:

"As we were directed by the lofty ideas of his eminence the imam, today we can see the path in front of us in the clear remarks by our dear leader."

These remarks only mean strict obedience to the imam's line and to the directives of the leader of the Islamic revolution as one of the significant points in our constant fight against America.

Nevertheless, the supporters of talks, compromise, and transaction with America will achieve their objective if:

The imam's line and the divine directives of he who is no longer among us are erased from the hearts of each and every member of this nation and if the rule of the velayat-e faqih [supreme jurisconsult], whose banner is carried today by the true child of the late imam, stops flying over society. Of course this is a wish which America should take to its grave.

Editorial Views 'Contradiction' in U.S. Attitude

NC2605122590 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 16 May 90 p 2

[Editorial: "The Hidden Contradictions in the Attitude of the U.S."]

[Text] The United States and Iran on Sunday [13 May] signed a 105-million-dollar agreement to settle some 2,750 small private U.S. claims against Iran which arose in the wake of the Islamic Revolution of Iran in 1979.

This agreement resolves a number of small private claims in the Iran-U.S. financial dispute and will have to be ratified by the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in The Hague. The important thing, however, is that the accord opens the way for talks to settle the $11 billion Iranian claim against the U.S. related to military agreements violated by America after the success of the Islamic Revolution.

Some political circles and analysts may think this accord is the U.S. response to Iran's goodwill in the release of two U.S. hostages who were freed in West Beirut last month by Lebanese combatant groups through the Islamic Republic's mediation.

However, it may be considered a U.S. goodwill gesture if damages incurred from the unilateral violation of military accords by the United States after the revolution are repaid. During the past 10 years the U.S. has blocked the delivery of arms already purchased and paid for by Iran from that country.

But the Sunday accord may be considered as a first step which may in future lead to the resolution of the huge $11 billion Iranian claim against America.

But as far as the reestablishment of ties is concerned, Iran has experienced so much hostility by the U.S. against the Islamic Revolution that it is difficult for any realistic-minded political analyst to imagine relations being resumed between the two countries at any time in the near future.

The U.S.'s main problem in its dealings with Tehran during the past decade was that every president who came to power in the White House after the revolution has, on the one hand, desired "direct relations" with Iran due to the latter's undeniably sensitive and strategic importance, but on the other hand has wanted to have the upper hand in such relations.

But fact is that this is the usual U.S. attitude towards almost every Third World country. In other words, in their own words, they have wanted to preserve their "superpower prestige".

This is where the hidden contradiction lies: the fact that the U.S. wants to have relations, but at the same time it wants to play the role of a "big daddy" in such a relationship.

However, let it be known that as long as the U.S. continues to hold on to such ideas concerning a glorious and great revolution like Iran's Islamic Revolution, there are not only no prospects for reestablishment of ties, there are hardly any chances of reduction in the simmering hostility and tension between the two sides.

Official Speaks Against Israel at UN Meeting

LD2605174890 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 26, IRNA—The Islamic Republic has called on the U.N. Security Council to strongly condemn the Zionist regime's criminal and aggressive policies and to take practical measures against its evil intentions. The call was made by Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia and Africa Hoseyn Sheykholelsam in his speech at the extraordinary session of the Security Council held at the U.N. European headquarters in Geneva, Saturday [26 May].

Sheykholeslam also urged international circles to counter the crimes being committed by the regime occupying al-Qods [Jerusalem] [against] the Muslim people of Palestine.

"For years, the Zionist regime has grossly violated all the recognized rules of international law against mistreatment of the inhabitants of the occupied territories and against changing the character of those areas," he noted. The deputy foreign minister blamed the failure of international circles in fighting the illegitimate Zionist entity on the all out support extended to Israel by major powers of the world particularly the U.S.

Agreement Reached With Iraq on POW Repatriation

LD2505165790 Tehran IRNA in English 0945 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Tabriz, E. Azarbaijan Prov., May 25, IRNA—Iran has agreed with mutual repatriation of all sick and disabled POWs in Iran and Iraq on a humanitarian grounds, deputy foreign minister for international affairs currently visiting here announced here Thursday [24 May]. Manuchehr Mottaki speaking to a group of relatives of the POWs and those missing in action said that Iranian officials are closely following up the content of the U.N. Resolution 598 including the release of the POWs.

'Iranian authorities are endeavouring to bring home these living martyrs (POWs),' Mottaki who is also in charge of the POWs Committee of the Resolution 598 assured. Elaborating on the 20-month-long efforts of the delegations responsible for following up the resolution in Geneva and New York, Mottaki termed Iraqi impediments as 'a factor delaying the release of the POWs'.

President Delivers Second Friday Prayers Sermon

LD2505170190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1125 GMT 25 May 90

[Second Friday prayers sermon delivered by President Hojjat-ol Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani in Tehran on 25 May—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] To begin the second sermon, there are many events this week which I will use to briefly illustrate some important things, after stressing the need for observing piety and obeying divine commands.

This past week we marked the martyrdom of Imam Sadiq. For that occasion, as decided by the eminent leader, we held the international conference of the 'Ahl-e Beyt. It was one of the good, constructive, and effective measures taken by the Islamic Republic under the guidance of his eminence the leader. We have dear and great guests in Iran from everywhere in the world. They have come for this conference: 'ulema, researchers, and dignitaries—many of them are also attending today's Friday prayers. The conference was held and I hope that those in charge of the conference will follow up its achievements and that the pursuit of the divine goal is not halted in mid-stride.

Worldwide Shiism (?itself) and the united and solid movement toward world Islamic—or Shiite—unity, altogether, with one expression, one method, acting in coordination with other Islamic sects will allow us to realize what has been demanded in the Koran: a united ummah of all those who pray toward the qiblah. This is especially so since our eminent leader has also raised the issue of the house of coming together [Dar al-Taqrib; some months ago Khamene'i proposed forming a forum by this name for Islamic unity—FBIS]. Those two things merge if it were just a question of the 'Ahl-e Beyt conference intends to establish the Dar al-Taqrib and coordinate with other Islamic sects, that is exactly what he [Khamene'i] wants. And our eminent leader has always pursued that matter. His eminence the imam of the ummah had made that one of his goals. And before that, too, we remember, from the time of the late Ayatollah Borujerdi—and the expansion of the clerical circle began at his time—he, too, was after a Dar al-Taqrib and the unity of the Islamic world. We hope that we will achieve good things from that good undertaking.

Our next occasion, the one approaching, is the anniversary of the demise of the imam of the ummah. That is no small matter for us. It is not like our other anniversaries. We have a great many anniversaries. You know that we observe the anniversaries of many of our eminent martyrs and they deserve that. But this is a very different matter. I want to tell our nation that the week which has been designated for ceremonies commemorating the death anniversary of his eminence the imam is one of the exceptional opportunities of our history. We are really [word indistinct] to speak about the dignity, position, works, blessings, aims, and struggles of the Imam because every single one of our children knows it; adults, too, know it. Friends know it and enemies know it. The imam is not someone who is unrecognized, who needs to be described. Whatever we say about the brilliance of the sun, it is just unnecessary words; the main demonstration is just that light which surrounds us. What more can we say?

Everyone knows the imam well. And during the period of the ceremonies, speakers and writers will once again explain things known by the people; and that is a good thing. However, the importance of the matter is that imam is the symbol of the revolution and the vitality of the imam's presence in our society is synonymous with the liveliness and vitality of the revolution and a diminution in the presence of the imam in our presence is a sign of weakness and regression in the revolution. That is what our enemies will conclude. That is undoubtedly how is will be viewed. There is no doubt that however much the name of the imam, his works, and anything connected with him is raised, in a correct manner, in our society, it will be a demonstration of the vitality and life of the revolution, because the people's affection for the imam is due to the revolution. There are many ulema in the world and they are all—many of them are very good and likeable people. Yet we know that there are few people in our history who are as well liked by us as the imam. There are few people whose passing away has caused so many tears to be shed; few who have had so many devotees.

Why is that? If it is a question of knowledge, we have many knowledgeable people. If it is piety, we have many pious people. If it is...[changes thought] whatever it may be; what our society and the world of Islam has seen as being exclusive to the imam are these revolutionary achievements, the revitalization of Islam, the establishment of Islamic government on the ruins of Taghut [an idol in Mecca and a reference to the Shah's regime] in Iran and the opening of the path of the Islamic movement among Islamic nations: the life-force of the revolution—that comes from the imam.

We know the imam through the revolution and the revolution through the imam. This revolution is something for which—you already know what price we have paid for it thus far. Therefore, the more we keep alive this flag of the revolution, this minaret of the revolution, this dome and dias of the revolution, this tent of the revolution, this tent-post of the revolution; the more vitality we maintain for it—it is not a personality cult. That is why I am mentioning it. It may be that some of those ill-willed people, people who put a bad interpretation on everything, will say that a person who has died, who is no longer among us—they will say speak about the living, why talk about the dead? And soon. It should not be like that. The imam must never die. If the imam, God forbid, really dies among us one day—it is hard to say what state the revolution will be in then. [crowd chants: "God is great", "Death to America", "Death to Britain", "Death to Israel", "Khomeyni's spirit is alive, woe betide his enemies"]

In any case, in making these remarks I am referring to the people's enthusiastic response with regard to the ceremonies commemorating the anniversary of the demise of his eminence the imam—even though there would be such a response whether or not I deliver such remarks. We should perform these ceremonies in such a way so as to disappoint the enemies, just as we have done in the past—they were affected as though they had been hit by ice water. [Crowd chants: "Death to America", "Death to mojahedin", "Death to Israel"]

They are seriously assessing our activities; what ever action we take at this juncture, they consider it an action taken toward safeguarding and spreading the revolution.

Another recent occasion was that of the anniversary yesterday of the liberation of Khorramshahr. In yesterday's ceremonies...[changes thought] Our people have learned many things through the mass media in the past few days, and many sweet memories were revived. There are a few points which I would like to mention in this connection: first, to pay tribute to our fighters whom we love dearly. [passage omitted]

The second point which is more relevant to you citizens of Tehran—so please listen carefully—concerns the reconstruction of Khorramshahr, which has become part of Tehran's responsiblity, as in the way the province's support the headquarters [setad-e mo'in]. [passage omitted]

Khorramshahr was among our most highly developed cities and was equipped with expensive port installations. Khorramshahr has to be rebuilt and the government will certainly carry out its task. According to preliminary estimates, the cost will be around 30 billion tomans—that is to say 300 billion rials, which is a high figure. In total, the cost of reconstructing Abadan and Khorramshahr will be approximately 60 billion tomans. The government has allocated part of the budget—initially the government had allocated 18 billion tomans for the total reconstruction this year, which was altered to 9 billion tomans by the Majles, which again following further debate in the Majles was increased to 16 billion tomans. if necessary, the Majles will allocate more money. I believe that when necessary the Majles will agree with whatever amount is deemed necessary, which will in turn be paid out by the government. [passage omitted]

I have a suggestion to make to the Tehrani citizens and that is to deposit some money in an account which opened during the previous presidential term ; we are giving two years for the reconstruction of Khorramshahr, in the course of which we expect every individual to deposit at least 500 tomans in Khorramshahr's support headquarter's account, which means that a five-person family should deposit 2,500 tomans in the course of these two years—of course there are those who can not afford to make such payment and we accept that, but there are those who can pay a thousand times more, therefore some pay less and some pay more; you should, however, look at 500 tomans as the average payment. [someone shouts that he will give 5,000 tomans a year for 10 years which is followed by similar cries and chants of "Death to America", "Death to England", "Death to mojahedin," and "Death to Israel"]

[Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1030 GMT on 25 May, in a report on Hashemi-Rafsanjani's sermon, adds the following: "Therefore, the self-sacrificing people of Tehran must help in the reconstruction of Khorramshahr by paying in their cash donations to account No. 4444 with the Bank Markazi [Central Bank] of the Islamic Republic of Iran."]

Thank you very much to our brother who said we will give 5,000 tomans each year for 10 years. That is right and I know it too. But the issue is that it is not difficult for the government to give 4 or 5 billion tomans for reconstructing Khorramshahr. The government can pay it and will pay it. Whether you help or not this sum is going to be paid and Khorramshahr will be reconstructed. But it is good to see people participating in reconstructing that town, for each family to feel that it has participated in the reconstruction work by contributing a few thousand tomans, for each person to feel that he or she has contributed 500 tomans for Khorramshahr. That is constructive thinking. During the war it was also the same. Perhaps you thought that it was the people paying for the war. That was not the case. Each year, for example, we spent 150 billion tomans for the war. Three to 4 billion was provided by the people while the government paid the rest. What the government contributed cannot be compared with what was given by the people but it is worth sensing the people's presence in the [construction] Jihad and their active participation. [passage omitted]

Our next topic is a world issue. Among the week's events have been the issue of Palestine and the calamities which took place in Palestine and Kashmir. Something nasty can be detected with serious permanent effects, and there are signs that it is deep-rooted. This is the attack against combatant and self-sacrificing Islamic forces. It seems a program is underway for a wicked attack against those honorable self-sacrificing human beings throughout the world. This became clear from an interview with an official from an Arab League center in the Persian Gulf a day or two ago. He remarked we have discussed and come out with a project to uproot fundamentalism [tarhi darim baraye rishe kan kardane boniadgara'i]. That is one of those strange words, and he accidentally mentioned it. He let the cat out of the bag. If the events of Palestine and Kashmir had not happened we could have taken it as a threat. But now that they have happened we think it tells us of an important event and problem behind the scenes. That was a strange thing to happen. They called him a madman but one does not know if he was mad. An Israeli soldier scattered on the ground, like leaves in autumn, eight meek Arab workers firing an automatic rifle at them. Very well. They say he was a madman. If he was a madman, then it is natural that Muslims who saw their meek brothers martyred in such a manner become angry, be moved, cry, demonstrate, and participate in mourning ceremonies. That is a natural reaction to take place after an event. Israelis took advantage of that and fired at people and martyred many people in those ceremonies. Hundreds were wounded and martyred. Hospitals are full of them. That is what happened there.

In Kashmir, one of the devout, sincere, and combatant personalities called Maulvi Faroo was assassinated. Very well. It is obvious that following the assassination and martyrdom of a popular clergy and prayer leader people would gather and demonstrate. Any government knows that. If no evil intent is planned, the police are given orders not to resort to violence, to be careful and tolerate the slogans and eventually the mourning ceremonies after two or three hours will end. But they [Indian troops] were totally and completely ready, hidden in their trenches. As soon as people poured into the streets, they fired at them. In the Indian legislature, where they had supported aggressive actions in Kashmir, they shouted why have you martyred and killed so many people?

You see what happened in Kashmir and in Palestine and you can also see the remarks of that Arab official and the world reaction. Very well, there have been some weak condemnations of Israel by this and that American or European government. It is impossible not to do so. But what has the United Nations done about that calamity? What serious action has been taken by the Americans or Europeans in that regard? But did you see what a hue and cry was made by the imperialist Western media about a group of unworthy people who destroyed a few graves? Western media is still shedding tears about that. So many honorable people were shot and fell to the ground. How do those cowards who advocate human rights, democracy, freedom, freedom of opinion, and so on justify those actions? What are the Palestinian people to do after they shoot at them? The world has become very aggressive and the heads of governments malicious and unjust. Someone—defending his religion, his holy book, his prophet, his homeland and his qiblah, his freedom—crys out and falls to the ground. Then they sit there talking about human rights, make up stories, and then act as you see.

Today in Geneva, the UN Security Council is holding a meeting about this issue of Palestine. Shall we see what comes of it? They have had a topical conversation, discussing whether UN observers should be in Palestine or not. They themselves created that illegitimate body and committed all those crimes against those people. What are their observers doing there? What have they done to stop those obvious crime? They have had discussions there, after waiting a few days to let people's sentiments die down.

There is no one to help those poor people. If those Arab kings and presidents are to defend Palestinians under the banner of Arabism which has become their slogan, then it is clear how much they can achieve. Now they themselves have planned to destroy fundamentalists, and by fundamentalists they mean those same struggling Palestinians. They are the embodiment of Islamic fundamentalism. We do not have any better representatives than them. Okay, what do we expect of those in Geneva? To make a serious decision to the benefit of those people? Of course they will decide something on paper, but their actions remain those of a crime. Muslims should remain aware and vigilant. They are being sacrificed at the hands of their own governments. They should not be deceived by such protections and should choose the path for their own salvation. In any case, one day the Islamic nations shall liberate Palestine. [people chant: "God is great," "Death to America" "Death to Israel"] [passage omitted]

Beirut Embassy Issues Statement After Attack

LD2705095590 Tehran IRNA in English 0734 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Beirut, May 27, IRNA—Iran's embassy here issued a statement Saturday [26 May] after the paramilitary forces opened fire on the Iranian diplomatic compound earlier in the day, the second time during the past week. The statement said, "Certain indisciplined paramilitary elements once again violated the diplomatic immunity of the Islamic Republic of Iran's mission here which was halted after contacts were established with the Syrian forces."

Meanwhile, immediately after the incident, a Syrian military command team arrived in the scene and condemned the act. The team also pledged that it will work to prevent repetition of such acts by paramilitary forces. Later in the day, a relative calm returned to the areas near the Iranian embassy and the fighting subsided.

The Iranian cultural mission here was damaged when hit by mortar shells in an exchange of fire between the Amal and Hezbollah fighters on May 19.

Khamene'i Addresses Afghanistan's Mujahidin

LD2705145890 Tehran IRNA in English 1355 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA—The leader of the Islamic revolution today termed the Afghan issue as "one of the most important of the contemporary world" and underlined the need for Afghan Muslims and Mojahidin to preserve their unity. Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i addressing a group of Shi'ite Afghan Mojahidin and members of the Iran-based nine-party coalition, said "You, by relying on your faith and unity forced the occupation forces to retreat inflicting substantial casualties and losses."

The revered ayatollah made it clear that "without jihad (holy struggle) the enemy will not draw back from the scene and jihad and its military, political and cultural dimensions are not possible without unity and alliance. "Political work should be backed by military jihad and these two will be ineffective without cultural efforts," he pointed out.

The leader called on Afghan Mojahidin to make more efforts on the cultural front and to pay more attention to international political measures.

Velayati Confers With Lebanon's Fadlallah

LD2705115290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] 'Allameh Sayyed Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, one of Lebanon's combatant 'ulema, met and conferred with our country's Foreign Minister Mr. Velayati this morning. The meeting discussed the problems of Lebanon's Muslims and the world of Islam. 'Allameh Sayyed Muhammad Fadlallah, while stressing the need for expediting the resolution of disputes between Muslim brothers in Lebanon, asked that the anti-Zionist struggle be strengthened and pursued.

Mr. Velayati then referred to the importance of Muslim unity, especially in Lebanon, for the purpose of confronting Zionism and global arrogance, and stressed the Islamic Republic of Iran's preparedness to make its resources available for the purpose of expanding and strengthening the struggle for the Lebanese Muslims against the Zionist enemy.

Yazdi on Khomeyni's Words, Jewish Emigration

LD2705201490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 May 90

[Excerpts] On the eve of the first anniversary of the demise of his eminence, Imam Khomeyni—may his soul be sanctified—the head of the Judiciary announced: Respecting the integrity [hormat] of the words of Imam Khomeyni, may his dust be sanctified, is binding on everyone, whatever rank or position they may hold, and the Judiciary will, in accordance with regulations passed by the Islamic Consultative Assembly [Majles] strongly confront any offender.

Mr. Yazdi, head of the Judiciary, who was speaking at the consultative session of the judicial officials of the country, emphasized: There is a difference between using the words and writings of his eminence, the imam, and tampering with them, and this regulation should not prevent the publication of the thoughts and words of his eminence, the imam. [passage omitted]

Mr. Yazdi then referred to the contradictions in the U.S. letter sent to the meeting of the Arab heads of states, saying: The United States claims in this letter that it opposes the creation of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, yet, elsewhere in the letter, it states that the migration of Jews from all corners of the world to Israel is their natural right. The migration of Soviet Jews [to Israel] is regarded by the United States in this same light. The head of the judiciary added: Why does the United States not consider that driving out the Muslim people of Palestine from their homeland is tantamount to trampling underfoot human rights, and only considers that the migration or the settlement of Jews of other countries in the occupied territories is among their rights?

Soviet Muslims Seek Visas to Attend Anniversary

LD2405112490 Tehran IRNA in English 1312 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Moscow, May 23, IRNA—Thousands of Muslims from the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan have applied for visas to visit Iran for the first anniversary of the passing away of the great leader of the islamic revolution Imam Khomeyni. Contacted by telephone, an official at the Iranian Consulate in Baku told IRNA today, that so far 1,015 visa requests have been reviewed, and the number of applicants is significantly increasing.

He said Muslims from many other Soviet republics have also called at the consulate for visas to visit the Islamic Republic.

The imam left for his heavenly abode on June 3 last year, and the first anniversary is to be held on a grand scale at the late leader's shrine on the southern outskirts of the capital, with thousands of guests expected from several countries.

Majles Speaker To Hold News Conference 29 May

LD2605194790 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] To commemorate the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, Majles speaker Karrubi will hold a news conference at 1000 hours [0730 GMT] on Tuesday, 29 May, at the Majles. Domestic and foreign correspondents who would like to participate are requested to submit their requests to the Majles Public Relations Office by the end of the office hours on Sunday 27 May.

Leaders Commemorate Anniversary of Majles

LD2805131490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] The 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Majles was commemorated this morning in a ceremony attended by the heads of the three branches. At that ceremony, attended by representative of the eminent leader, members of the Council of Guardians, vice-presidents, presidential advisers, ministers, judiciary officials, Majles representatives, Friday imams, governors-general, military and state officials, and the head of the Supreme Assembly of Islamic Revolution in Iraq, first Mr. Karrubi, the Majles speaker, delivered a speech in which he attributed the victory of the Islamic revolution to the existence of three important factors: pure Islam [Eslam-e Nab] and its spiritual impact on the people, the unprecedented leadership of his eminence the imam, and the united presence of the people in the arena of struggle. He expounded on the history of the establishment of the Majles, its special status, and the fraught and significant task of safeguarding the integrity of the system.

The Majles speaker cited experts from the speeches of his eminence the imam,—may his soul be sanctified—and His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution. He reiterated the sensitive role of the legislative branch, saying: The creation of Islamic justice, equity, and the rule of Islam, attention to the welfare of the deprived and needy, the ratification of bills and laws aimed at eliminating poverty and at resolving people's probems, and also the preservation of the neither East nor West policy, are among the most important instructions given by the great leader of the Islamic revolution, which were approved by his eminence before each Majles term began.

In conclusion, Mr. Karrubi submitted a report on the achievements of the Majles in the last 10 years.

Then President Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed his sorrow at the demise of his eminence the imam—may God's blessing be upon him—and remarked on the beginning of the 11th operational year of the Majles, the (?blessing) of possessing the full instructions of the great leader of the revolution, and the existence of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i leader of the Islamic revolution. He said: The best testimony to the achievements of the Majles are the speeches of his eminence the imam, plus the fact that one of the most precious characteristics of the constitution of our system is its creation of such a significant, sensitive and powerful apparatus. This is one of the hidden divine blessings. The president cited excerpts from the historical trend of the Islamic revolution and gave examples of cases which have served to prove the credibility of the Majles. He elaborated on the significant position of the Majles as seen by his eminence the imam.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the open tribune of the Majles and the live broadcast of its proceedings on radio as being exclusive in the world and indicative of the existence of the most democratic kind of freedom of speech and expression in the world, thanks to which our people elect their Majles representatives in the freest and most fairest of elections." These are among the special characteristics of the Majles."

Then Mr. Yazdi, head of the judiciary, expressed his congratulations on the 10th anniversary of the Majles' establishment and sorrow at the absence of his eminence the imam. He remarked on the blessing of the presence of his eminence's memento, Hojjat-ol Eslam Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, who gives us access to the instructions and policies of his eminence. He spoke on the characteristics, responsibilities, and tasks of the Majles and the people's representatives at the Majles. The head of the judiciary also called on the Majles representatives to maintain close links between the legislative and judicial branches, through passing the necessary legislation, thus assisting the judicial apparatus in performing its arduous task.

Khamene'i Calls on Imams to Support President

LD2805135590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] The sixth nationwide gathering of Friday imams opened this morning with a speech by His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i the honorable leader of the Islamic revolution. At a gathering of Friday imams from the entire country, the eminent leader presented valuable advice. In his remarks he stressed the vital importance of Friday prayers in protecting the Islamic revolution running the country, and advancing ongoing affairs. He spoke of Friday imams as the guardians of the revolution and as the focal points for people's guidance and leadership.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i described Friday prayers as a venue for familiarizing the people with the formative teachings of Islam; explaining issues pertaining to the revolution and the world of Islam; encouraging fortitude in the people and keeping them away from mistakes; and also a place for disappointing enemies with regard to negative influences on the minds of the people. Stressing the importance of Friday imams' duties, he graciously said [farmudand] that holding Friday prayers, which in Islamic Iran was one of the wise counsels of the eminent imam [Khomeyni] and one of the revolution's great achievements, is considered to be the trenches of spiritual defense in the face of enemies and guidance for the people's movement and their struggle in the system as a whole. Because of their closeness to people's minds, hearts and sentiments, Friday imams perform part of the duties of leadership.

Elsewhere in his remarks, the leader of the Islamic revolution spoke of the profound differences between the Islamic revolution of Iran and other revolutions in the world. He explained how analyzing the Islamic revolution on the basis of experiences and mental processes on other revolutions in the world is unwarranted and incorrect. He graciously said that in most countries where a group know as revolutionaries rules over the people, the people play no role in the revolution and their leaders are not familiar with the understanding which we have in our minds about revolution and popular government. In Iran, however, things are different. [word indistinct] of the people bore the revolution on their shoulders and took it to victory, and they defend and protect it.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i referred to the fact that the world's oppressed nations have learned lessons about revolution, resistance, and struggle from the great Muslim nation of Iran. He graciously said that the fact that the Islamic revolution is exceptional is something which is understood by the world. What goes on in the world which leads to praise for our revolution and for our eminent deceased imam is exceptional. He said that the popular nature of our country's officials is manifested in the fact that the people feel no distance between themselves and the country's officials. This is a great blessing. Today, no individual feels that there is any difference between him or herself and the president. The habit of standing on ceremony and the extent of class differences present in other countries do not exist in the Islamic Republic of Iran. The ministers, too, are ordinary people from the streets and the baazar to whom responsibility has been given because of their special knowledge.

The eminent leader of the Islamic revolution spoke of the people's role in advancing the aims of the Islamic revolution and in running the affairs of the country. He graciously said that the Islamic revolution and the country's system and officials are popular. The people, too, are continuously kept informed about all events and issues relating to the revolution. For this reason, the construction and reconstruction of the country, support for principled movements, and thwarting enemy actions takes place at the hands of the very same people who are scattered throughout the country as the main components of the revolution and the system. It is not without reason that global arrogance strives, with the use of all its resources, to dishearten the people and make them indifferent to the revolution.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i concluded by calling on the country's Friday imams to stand together in one direction and one movement and stressed the need to support the government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani as a duty and an imperative. He graciously said that Friday imams must stand above political currents, have faith in Islam and the revolution, support the government, and have principled stands in mind as the basis for the coordinated movement for Friday imams.

Chairman Stresses Role of Friday Prayers Imams

LD2805123190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] Following the remarks delivered by His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the sixth gathering of the country's Friday [prayers] imams commenced with a speech by Ayatollah Meshkini, the chairman of the Assembly of Experts and the Friday imam of Qom. Ayatollah Meshkini remarked on the significant role of the Friday imams as the society's ideological guides, saying: You carry the most important and sacred responsibility on your shoulders, and are dutybound to guide society ideologically.

Referring to the significant and sensitive role of the Friday imams in society, Ayatollah Meshkini added: You are the society's guides and should have God in mind more than anyone else. Hence you must abstain from any ungodly thought and action.

Judiciary Head Yazdi on Arrest of 'Bribery Ring'

LD2105220390 Tehran IRNA in English 1654 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 21, IRNA—A bribery ring involving public and private personnel has received due sentences after being arrested and put on trial.

"The gang had received bribes in government offices in billions of rials in cash, gold coins and dollar notes which were all confiscated upon arrest," said the judiciary head Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi. He did not give any further details.

Yazdi, addressing a consulting session of judiciary authorities Sunday [20 May], also reiterated the need for seriously countering social vices and failure to observe the Islamic code of dressing.

The session further called for safeguarding the reputation and rights of all individuals in the society. To this end, the judiciary police, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and Islamic revolutionary committee were asked not to leak any information to the mass media on the identity of the accused before the final verdict.

Progress of 'Zafar-2' Antidrug Operation Noted

LD2805020590 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Hamadan, May 26, IRNA—More than 41 tons of narcotics have been discovered and destroyed by the Islamic Revolution's Committee (IRC) forces from internal and international drug dealers over the past one and a half years.

IRC Deputy Commander Mahmud Mirlowhi [name as received] said here today that in the latest phase of the anti-drug operation codenamed Zafar 2 more than three thousand kgs of opium, morphine, hashish and other kinds of narcotics have been discovered.

Up to one thousand 'death dealers' have been arrested during the operation, the commander announced.

He added that in the Zafar 2 operation seventeen drug networks were toally wiped out, some of which were engaged in international drug activities, and that 8,000 addicts have been arrested so far.

"IRC is now controlling 450 kms of the strategic borderlines in the east of the country and the domain will expand further in the future," Mirlowhi said.

Paper Interviews Radio, TV Chief Hashemi

NC2105170690 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 9 May 90 pp 1, 7

[Report on "exclusive interview" with Mohammad Hashemi, managing director of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 8 May in Tehran]

[Text] Tehran—A senior official of the Islamic Republic yesterday blasted the Western media and said it "lacks moral and social values."

Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) Head Mohammad Hashemi in an exclusive interview with the TEHRAN TIMES denounced the Western media stances against Iran.

Hashemi referring to the recent response in the Western media on the Iranian efforts for the release of the Western hostages said, "They (Western media) told lies and distorted the facts on the hostages."

He said "There was no materialistic motive or deal behind the Iranian efforts for the release of the hostages."

"Iran made all these efforts for the release of hostages on humanitarian grounds and the Western media as usual saw the materialistic aspect of the Iranian efforts," Hashemi said.

He was replying to a question as to what plan the IRIB has to counter Western lies against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Hashemi said, "We just present facts before the world."

"It's not the first time," he said and recalled, "the same media made a hue and cry on the human rights situation in Iran and their anti-Iran propaganda was defused with the arrival of Reynaldo Galindo Pohl," he said.

Hashemi was referring to U.N. Human Rights Commission investigator Galindo Pohl who arrived here last January. He visited several prisons and held talks with various strata of Iranian society.

"You saw he (Pohl) presented his report which nullified all the propaganda of the Western media against the Islamic Republic of Iran," he said.

"More or less, we used to air about the human rights situation in Iran but the Western media never listened to us," the IRIB head said.

"Well, you know, the IRIB follows strictly certain moral, social, and religious values so whatever we say through our media is different from what is said by the West as they lack these values," said Hashemi.

He said that the constitution of our country has "actually fixed up our limitation as to what to do and what not to do."

He said that the IRIB has a series of duties for the nation which include, introduction of Islam and to keep our audience from vulgarism.

Hashemi said that a comprehensive knowledge about political and social developments is also provided to our audience.

Other aspects covered by the IRIB include general information, education, hygiene, common laws and an illiteracy campaign.

"Of course, we provide healthy entertainment for our audiences," Hashemi said.

He said that we tried to send our voice abroad but this sometimes encounters difficulties.

Quoting an example he said that those days when the Iranian nation was mourning the sad demise of Founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Leader of the Islamic Revolution late Imam Khomeyni "the programs in some neighboring countries jammed the radio and television programs so that the common people in those countries could not feel the sentiments of our nation."

It's not the case with neighboring countries only," Hashemi said and pointed out that when he was in France he notices that Iran's Persian program was jammed."

"It's a violation of the international law," he said.

Hashemi said that the IRIB has programs in Persian, English, Arabic, Pashto, Urdu, Turkish and Swahili languages and it covered almost ⅔ of the world's population.

Commenting on the Iranian television films he said, "We have certain difficulties and this is the reason we could not present a large number of films to our audiences."

"Our basic principles bar us from producing films which have sex or violence in them and when we go to the international market we find the films there are full of such unsocial, anti-religious aspects," he said.

"We need at least 200 films to show on small screens, some of them we produce and others we import or buy through domestic sources," Hashemi said.

"Our basic criteria for the selection of any film is moral values and not scenes such as rape, violence and crimes on which other countries base their films," Hashemi said.

"We have children's programs with the objective that the next generation should grow up as true human beings," Hashemi who is brother of President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said.

President on Land Reclamation, Self-Sufficiency

LD2405131890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 May 90

[Excerpts] Officials in charge of the seven-member land allocation teams [hey'at-haye haft-nafareh-e vagozari-ye zamin] all over the country accompanied by a number of farmers, were received this morning by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. According to the Central News Unit, in this meeting, the president praised the performance of the Land Allocation Teams [LAT's] in the allocation of 500,000 hectare of the country's virgin lands to 90,000 rural households. He noted: Apart from its impact on producton and development, this move is very important from its humanistic point of view. From Islam's standpoint, reclamation of land—and in this respect, lands that had remained barren in the form of virgin land for centuries—is a great service and you have been the means through which virgin and barren land has been transformed into cultivated land.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani also referred to the drilling of 6,000 [water] wells in virgin lands and added: Those who have spent their lifetime and youth on these tasks have performed services that are among the highest kinds that can be offered. [passage omitted]

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The issue of temporary cultivation, [affecting] about 700-800 hectars of land had created a problem and the issue had to be clarified. So the Islamic Majles, the Guardians Council, the Expediency Discernment Council, backed by his eminence, Imam Khomeyni—may his dust be sanctified—opened the way. You are the executors of that solution and our nation will not forget that you are working for God. Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: If we make use of improved farming techniques in as far as our knowledge and resources our technical and scientific powers currently permit us to do, we would not have the need to import foodstuffs. Of course, if we are careful in what we do, we could even become exporters. He continued: by benefitting from scientific and correct agricultural methods, we could reach self-sufficiency quite fast.

The president, in this meeting also presented the deeds for 71,000 hectares of virgin land, national resources, and temporary cultivated lands, to two nationwide representatives of our country's farmers. [passage omitted]

UN Official Praises Conditions in Refugee Camps

LD1905140190 Tehran IRNA in English 1050 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbaijan Prov., May 19 IRNA—Head of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] in Iran Andrew Sokiri Saturday [19 May] said that services and facilities Iran offered to the refugees made it the "best and a model host government". Speaking to IRNA after an inspection tour of a number of refugee townships in this province, Sokiri noted that Iran, despite the bottlenecks caused by the eight-year old war, has rendered "outstanding services" to the refugees. However, he stressed, the international community should shoulder its responsibility in this connection, adding that he expected continuation of the world aid and cooperation. He pointed to his Friday [18 May] inspection tour of Ziweh refugee township in this northernwestern city, where 26,000 refugees are kept, and said facilities rendered there were more than what he had seen in hundreds [of] refugee camps all over the world.

There are some 11 refugee townships in West Azarbaijan Province where some 98,500 refugees are settled. Out of the figure, 53,000 are those who arrived in Iran following the Iraqi bombardment of northern Kurdish populated areas and the remaining are those who remained in Iran after the 1975 Algiers accord.

The UNHCR delegation later left for Kurdestan Province to visit refugee camps in the city of Saqqez.

Pakistan

Violence, Demonstrations Sweep Sindh, Karachi

Bhutto Expresses Concern

BK2605045090 Hong Kong AFP in English 2210 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] Karachi, May 25 (AFP)—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said Friday [25 May] that those responsible for violence in her home province of Sindh should be strictly punished. Ms. Bhutto, presiding over a Sindh cabinet meeting here, expressed "serious concern at the deteriorating law-and-order situation" in Sindh and said those arrested should not be released under public pressure, government officials said.

"Proliferation of illegal weapons in Sindh was a grave matter which should be checked at all cost," they quoted her as saying. She said an "iron hand" should be used on all those involved in violence so that those living in Sindh could feel protected.

Ms. Bhutto also called for strict action against police who failed to arrest criminals and were found guilty of taking sides in the separatist campaign, officials said. She also called for the establishment of special courts to ensure speedy trials and dispensation of justice for those arrested.

Meanwhile, tension prevailed in Hyderabad 110 miles north of here, where the death toll from the current wave of ethnic violence has reached 60. A two-hour break in curfew Friday was dominated by fear, witnesses said. Security agencies continued the strict checking of vehicles and individuals as action to arrest culprits in the recent violence continued, they said. The number of those arrested has reached 1,000, the sources said.

Some top ethnic leaders were apprehended during large-scale arrests in Hyderabad. An important leader of the Muhajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) representing Urdu-speaking settlers from India, and two from the Sindh National Front (SNF) for Sindhi nationalism, were among those rounded up Thursday [24 May], press reports said. The arrests follow President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's statement here Tuesday [22 May] that the Sindh government had taken tough measures to stamp out violence and the results would be visible within a week.

Interior Minister Aitzaz Ahsan said an "absolutely even-handed and sweeping action was in the offing to bring to the book extremist elements regardless of ethnicity and political expediency."

The MQM blamed the ruling Pakistan People's Party government for allegedly "patronizing terrorists" and arresting only MQM supporters. The government has denied the charges.

Meanwhile, tension also prevailed in the rural areas of Sindh following the arrest of Qadir Magsi, who is accused of a September 1988 carnage in Hyderabad during which more than 250 people were gunned down.

Ms. Bhutto accused India on Thursday of sending agents into Sindh to create lawlessness, a charge denied by India.

Through a large-scale campaign against "abduction, kidnappings for ransom, robberies, rape, car snatching and indiscriminate firing," the Pakistan business community has urged the people "to force the authorities to act." Wearing white arm bands and boycotting all government functions is part of the protest movement.

12 Killed; Hyderabad Injuries

BK2605150290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1459 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] Karachi, May 26 (AFP)—At least 12 people, including three police, were killed and dozens injured when residents of the northern city of Hyderabad clashed with para-military rangers and police Saturday [26 May], witnesses said. The exact death toll and number of injured could not be officially confirmed but residents in the Pucca Qila area said by telephone that "over one hundred were injured as firing was still going on."

Trouble began when para-military rangers and mobile squads of police, specially brought in from Karachi to deal with the troubles, cordoned off Pucca Qila, in downtown Hyderabad, to look for illegal weapons but residents resisted the house-to-house search, witnesses said.

Informed sources said rangers and police raided an office of the opposition Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) which represents Urdu-speaking settlers from India. This sparked off the trouble. Authorities were forced to cancel the relaxation of a curfew as violence spread to other parts of the city and the nearby latifabad locality, they said. The area is dominated by the MQM.

The security forces are not allowing anybody, including ambulances to go into the affected areas which has further aggravated the situation as many of the injured could not receive medical aid, witnesses said.

More than 70 people have died in this fresh outbreak of violence in the southern Province of Sindh since May 14, according to an unofficial death toll. Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Friday [25 May] called for strict measures against terrorists in Sindh, after accusing India of being behind the trouble.

Press Note Issued on Violence

BK2605164290 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 26 May 90

[Text] A press note issued by the divisional commissioner of Hyderabad said: On information that some terrorists have come in Hyderabad to (?create) bloodshed, police conducted raids in several localities. The terrorists resisted this action (?with intense) firing from all sides on police and law enforcing agencies which resulted in the death of one police constable, one jawan [soldier], a ranger, and injuries to five police constables. Police returned the fire and injured 12 persons out of whom four died on the way to hospital. A number of persons have been arrested with illegal weapons. The search is continuing.

In the early hours of the morning, four houses were looted by miscreants. In (Bhrij Shah), one truck driver was shot dead by sniper shooting on the national highway. Situation in other districts remained normal. The district magistrate, Hyderabad, has announced that there will be no relaxation in the curfew restrictions in Hyderabad and Latifabad tomorrow.

27 Dead in New Sindh Violence

BK2705111290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1046 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, May 27 (AFP)—At least 27 people were killed and hundreds injured Sunday [27 May] in firing here and in curfew violations in Hyderabad, 175 kilometres (110 miles) north of here, ambulance sources and witnesses said. Here in Pakistan's largest city, 15 people died in sniper shooting in different parts of the central district dominated by the opposition Mohajir Qaumi Movement representing settlers from India, witnesses said.

Meanwhile, firing was continuing at 3:00 p.m. (1000 GMT) in Hyderabad, where people defying curfew had taken to the streets. Ambulance sources in Hyderabad, contacted by telephone, said at least 12 people were killed while residents said they feared the toll could be higher.

The outbreak of violence was the worst in months in southern Sindh, the home province of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who only two days ago ordered a crackdown on terrorists and other subversive elements after accusing India of exploiting ethnic and political troubles.

Paper Details 26 May Violence

BK2705133890 Karachi DAWN in English 27 May 90 pp 1, 4

[Excerpts] Hyderabad, May 26: At least nine citizens were shot dead by police and Eagle Squad and two policement died in counter-firing by the public here on Saturday [26 May]. Innumerable people including three policemen, were injured here up to 6 pm, in a massive operation to arrest "wanted persons."

The number of dead could be much more but authentic information could not be obtained because of intense shooting in the city and Latifabad.

According to reports, as soon as the first curfew break was over, the police and Eagle Squad cordoned off Pacca Qilla, Shahi Bazar, Resham Bazar, Faqir Ka Pir and the adjoining areas, and allegedly started "indiscriminate" firing.

Announcements were made from mosques warning the people that terrorists wearing uniforms had launched an attack on the innocent people. Appeals were made to bring in the Army. The youngsters then got on to the roofrops of their houses and returned the fire. Pitched battles were fought at all the places.

Edhi Centre reported that it received more than 150 "distress" telephone calls, but when its ambulances were sent to pick up the dead and the injured, they were refused entry by police. MPA [Member of Provincial Assembly] Aminuddin alleged to 'DAWN' on telephone that within his view police looted Rabel General Store and Mehtab General Store in the Resham Bazar.

Journalists made desperate calls to everyone that counts in Hyderabad, but no one was available.

When this correspondent contacted responsible officers of the Rangers, he was informed that neither the Rangers nor the Army was involved in the operation. They said the Rangers and Army were neither consulted nor taken into confidence in respect of the operation which was purely a "police show."

Those who were killed in Saturday's operation included Naeem (Unit No. 12 Latifabad), Shakeel (Unit No. 8), Abdus Salam (Sarafa Bazar), Mujahid (Pacca Qilla), two unidentified women and two boys (Pacca Qilla), and one unidentified man in Jinnah Colony Unit No. 12.

A former HMC [Hyderabad Municipal Corporation] Councillor, Alimuddin, told 'DAWN' that he had personally talked to the President of Pakistan on telephone and Punjab Chief Minister, and informed them about "police atrocities" in the city.

In the evening, the Inspector General of Police, Syed Saadar Ali Shah, attended the namaz-e-janaza [funeral prayer] at police line of one of the constables. It was also attended by the Commissioner of Hyderabad, Mr. Saalik Nazir Ahmed, DIG [Deputy Inspector General] Niaz Ahmed Siddiqui, and a large number of police officers and men. [passage omitted]

DAWN Islamabad Bureau adds: The Combined Opposition Parties (COP) on Saturday condemned what they called was "indiscriminate" killing and injuries to dozens of citizens in Hyderabad.

A statement released after an emergency meeting held at Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan's residence, urged the government to stop the "brutal action" and declared that the issue would be presented in the National Assembly on Sunday [27 May].

COP leaders further decided that a delegation would immediately fly to Hyderabad and Karachi. [passage omitted]

Army Takes Over Hyderabad

BK2705132390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1310 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] Hyderabad, Pakistan, May 27 (AFP)—The army moved in to take control of this wrecked city Sunday [27 May] after police killed 40 people in a mob that defied a curfew to demand food and water, residents said. The death toll in Sindh climbed to 71 over the weekend, as another 16 people were killed in shooting incidents here and 15 died in sniper attacks in Karachi. Paramilitary rangers were also called out in Karachi, 175 kilometers (110 miles) south of here, witnesses said.

In Hyderabad, processions of men, women and children defied a four-day curfew Sunday and streamed out of their homes carrying Korans. "We want food and water. Our children are dying," the women cried before the police opened fire, killing 40 and injuring at least 250, residents said.

The situation in this city of one million people was "just like a civil war," a resident contacted by telephone said, adding that he saw five bodies being carried away outside his home.

"I saw one woman hit in the head who died instantly. Another was removed to hospital with bullet in her stomach while a child had gunshot wound in the leg," another resident said.

The army and paramilitary forces, on assurances that the residents were unarmed, allowed them to proceed to the administration offices in protest against the curfew, informed sources said. But police prevented the procession and opened fire, they said. At least 30 bodies were brought to one hospital, while gunbattles continued in the city, sources quoting doctors said.

The trouble in Karachi erupted when many uprooted families from Hyderabad arrived in the early morning. People had fled from night-long fighting in which 16 people were reported dead. Angry mobs, reacting to the reports of the police action in their hometown, burned vehicles and started random shooting in several districts of Karachi, sources said.

Hundreds of people have been arrested so far in a mopping-up operation launched last week, including top leaders of the Urdu-speaking Mohajir settlers and the native Sindhis who had been involved in repeated gunbattles, officials said.

The crackdown was ordered in Sindh, the home province of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who expressed Friday [25 May] serious dissatisfaction about the situation and accused India of exploiting ethnic and political troubles.

Leaders Meet, Discuss Violence

BK2705163490 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] An emergency meeting of the Sindh cabinet was held today in Karachi and discussed the law and order situation obtaining in the province with particular reference to incidents of violence by law breakers in the cities of Hyderabad and Karachi. The meeting was presided over by the Sindh chief minister, Mr. Aftab Shaban Mirani. The cabinet decided that the administration should be geared up to continue action against the terrorists, dacoits, antisocial elements, agent provocateurs, and criminals in the province.

A delegation of the combined opposition parties called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad today and briefed him about the situation in Hyderabad and Karachi. The president expressed his utmost concern over the situation and said he was in constant touch with the federal and provincial government. He informed the delegation that he had talked to the prime minister, the Sindh governor and chief minister and asked them to take immediate steps to protect life, honor, and property of all citizens without discrimination on any basis whatsoever.

Army Called Out in Karachi

BK2705164690 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 27 May 90

[Text] According to APP [ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN], 14 persons were killed in a fresh wave of violence in Karachi today and about 50 others injured as law enforcing agencies continued to deal with the gun wielding unidentified persons in different parts of the city mostly in District Central. The agency quoting official sources says, the casualties included two policemen. The district magistrate Karachi has announced that curfew has been imposed in the jurisdictions of police stations Liaqatabad, Gulbahar, and Nazimaba Number 3, 5, and 7 till further orders.

The Army was called out in these areas to assist the civil administration for restoration of law and order.

The situation however, in other parts of the city remained normal with the exception of a few incidents of firing on Banks Road and Line area. Heavy police patrolling is continuing.

52 Killed; Hyderabad Violence

BK2805030290 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] A total of 52 people were killed as a result of violent incidents in Hyderabad and Karachi yesterday. According to a press note issued by the Hyderabad divisional commissioner yesterday evening, the situation remained tense in Hyderabad City and Latifabad Subdivision. Troublemakers, who also brought their women and children onto the streets, defied curfew and staged demonstrations in several areas, protesting against the search for illegal arms conducted by the law enforcement agencies in Pacca Qilla area. The women and children were asked to return to their homes.

The press note adds that the troublemakers attacked police stations and police posts. The police opened fire to disperse the crowd. A total of 39 people, including a police constable, were killed in clashes between the police and the troublemakers. Twelve other people were injured, and 10 were arrested for possessing illegal arms and defying curfew. Twelve automatic weapons along with ammunition were seized. The law enforcement agencies are continuing intensive patrolling.

Meanwhile, a press note issued by the district magistrate of Karachi Central says that troublemakers continued disturbances in several areas of the Karachi Central District throughout the day yesterday, making the police stations of Liaqatabad, Gulbahar, Gulberg, Joharabad, and Nazimbad their specific targets of attacks. The troublemakers also resorted to indiscriminate shooting and set fire to several official vehicles. The deputy superintendent of police of Nazimabad was also shot and wounded, while three other policemen were wounded in an indiscriminate shooting by troublemakers. Ten more people were killed as a result of exchange of fire between the troublemakers and the police and rangers in several areas, thus raising the death toll in the district to 13. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, however, said 18 people were killed and several wounded.

The press note adds that curfew has been clamped on blocks number 3, 5, and 7 of Liaqatabad, Gulbahar, and Nazimbad police stations in order to prevent any further loss of life.

More Deaths; Hyderabad Peaceful

BK2805093190 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] In Hyderabad today, the situation remained peaceful and under control during a two-hour relaxation in curfew restrictions from 0700 to 0900 this morning. Patrolling by Army units continue.

In Karachi, four persons were killed in separate incidents of violence today. Police say that two persons were shot dead and one injured by unknown assailants riding a scooter in Sadar area this morning. Two bodies were found in Malir area.

Senator Killed in Karachi

BK2805112690 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] Curfew relaxation for the second time today from 1600 to 1700 has been given in Hyderabad and Latifabad Subdivision. Curfew restrictions were also relaxed from 0700 to 0900 this morning. Situation remained peaceful and there was no untoward incident during curfew relaxation. The Army is patrolling.

Senator Mohsin Siddiqui died in Karachi today after he was shot at in firing by snipers in Federal B area. The senator was taken to a nearly hospital where he succumbed to injuries. He was 73.

President Condemns Handling

BK2805154090 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] A spokesman for President's House said in Islamabad today that President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has strongly condemned the inadequate planning and thoughtless actions on the part of the provincial authorities in Hyderabad as a result of which a large number of innocent citizens lost their lives. The spokesman said the president is greatly saddened over reports that innocent citizens, including women and children, were fired upon indiscriminately for the sake of arresting four unknown criminals. The president is deeply shocked that the incidents in Hyderabad evoked reaction in Karachi and there also many valuable lives were lost.

The spokesman also reported that since receiving preliminary reports, the president is in constant touch with the prime minister and the governor and chief minister of Sindh and he is emphasizing to them that the protection of life and honor and property of citizens is the government's top priority which should be fulfilled with justice and without any discrimination. The president asked them to assess as to what steps should be taken within the law and the Constitution to bring back normalcy to Sindh.

The spokesman said the president also proposed a high-level judicial probe be carried out immediately to determine who was responsible for the situation.

Judicial Probe in Hyderabad

BK2905060890 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 29 May 90

[Excerpts] The Sindh government has decided to hold a judicial inquiry into the incidents of recent violence in Hyderabad, including firing on the women's procession. It will be led by a high court judge. Sindh Information Minister Syed Naved Qamar told newsmen in Karachi yesterday that the inquiry commission will probe into the factors behind the deteriorating law and order situation in Hyderabad. He appealed to the press to refrain from publishing sensational stories in the overall interests of the country.

The law and order situation in Hyderabad was discussed at a meeting between Interior Minister Aitzaz Ahsan and Mayor of Hyderabad Aftab Sheikh in Islamabad yesterday. The federal minister expressed his concern over the situation and directed the mayor to take all possible steps to restore peace and order in the city.

The corps commander, Lieutenant General Asif Nawaz, has said the Army will perform the task assigned to it to restore peace and order in Hyderabad. Addressing senior

Army officers in Hyderabad yesterday, he said restoration of normalcy and removal of the prevailing mistrust and chaos will be ensured. The Army will endeavor to restore the confidence of the people and assist the civil administration in normal functioning. The corps commander also extensively visited the disturbed areas of the city. [passage omitted]

A press note issued by the divisional commissioner in Karachi says that as a result of shooting incidents 15 people were killed and 15 others were injured in various parts of the city. An inquiry into the killing of Senator Mohsin Siddiqui has been ordered and the sub divisional magistrate of Liaqatabad has been appointed as the inquiry officer. The press note adds that curfew has been extended to the jurisdictions of Malir Extension police station and parts of Malir City in District East, and in Momenabad, Pirabad and Orangi in District West.

According to ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, one person was killed and 13 others injured when unknown gunmen fired a valley of bullets on the Sukkur Express near Shah Faisal Colony in Karachi last night. The injured passengers were rushed to Jinnah Hospital. [passage omitted]

India Said Acquiring Soviet Nuclear Carrier

BK2805105890 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 28 May 90

[Text] According to reports India is acquiring an aircraft carrier from the Soviet Union on the urgent basis which will be the third aircraft carrier with the Indian Navy. The ship being offered to India is a Soviet modified Kiev class aircraft carrier. The carrier named (Basu) was commissioned in 1987. The ship carries surface-to-surface nuclear missiles which can hit a target up to a distance of 550 KM.